

District roundup

NARSINGDI

Husband kills wife for dowry

JULY 25: A young housewife was allegedly beaten to death by her husband for dowry in Rampur village of Polash thana of the district on July 18, reports UNB.

According to police, the victim Hatara Begum (20) was married five years back to Sayed Mian of same village. After some days of marriage, Sayed insisted on his wife to bring cash money from her poor father.

The husband became furious as she failed to bring the money from her father. Sayed beat Hatara Begum mercilessly. She died on the following day, family sources said.

A case was filed with the Palash police.

SATKHIRA

Rival groups clash leaves 5 hurt

JULY 25: Five workers of Sundarban Textile Mills were injured in a clash between two rival groups of the mills in the district on recently, reports UNB.

Seriously injured Barahuddin, Jamir and Wahidur were admitted into Sadar hospital in critical condition.

Another report adds: Police recovered an unidentified decomposed dead body of a woman from a pond at Golapota village of Kaliganj thana of the district on Thursday.

It was sent to Sadar hospital for autopsy.

JESSORE

Body of newly married housewife recovered

JULY 25: Police recovered a body of a newly married housewife from a rice mill area at village Sonadia in Sarsha thana of the district Wednesday last, reports UNB.

The body was identified as Nasima Khatoun (17) wife of Wahed Ali of the same village.

Police said the body was found hanging from a tree at the mill premises. Police suspects that Nasima was beaten to death. The body was sent to Jessore hospital for post-mortem.

A case has been filed but none was arrested so far.

GAZIPUR

Course on rural uplift begins

JULY 25: A week-long rural development orientation cum refresher training of union leaders of Village Defence Party (VDP) began at the Shafiq Ansar Academy on July 20, reports UNB.

Brig Abed Miah, Deputy Director General of Ansar and VDP inaugurated the training course.

He urged the participants to play a vital role in maintaining peace and tranquillity in the society and also checking population boom and rural sanitation.

About 3,000 VDP leaders are taking part in the course.

BANDARBAN

World Population Day observed

JULY 25: The World Population Day was observed in the district through different programmes.

A procession with banners, fections and placards paraded the streets of Bandarban town. The processionists chanted slogans in favour of family planning and ecological balance. People from all walks of life participated in the procession.

A discussion meeting was also held to mark the occasion. The speakers at the meeting called for strengthening the family planning movement. They called upon the people to create awareness about ecology.

JAMALPUR

BDR launches tree plantation programme

JULY 25: A massive tree planting programme has been undertaken here by the 27th battalion of Bangladesh Rifles recently, reports UNB.

Major Shah Alam, Commanding Officer of the battalion inaugurated the programme planting a Mehongor sapling at sector headquarter premises.

A total of 10,000 saplings have been distributed among the five company members of the battalion.

MANIKGANJ

Drama festival held

JULY 25: The annual drama festival organised by Gayatri Smriti Theatre was held at Poddarbari, Jhitka under Hari-rampur thana recently, reports BSS.

The programme included staging of a play 'Ujan Ganger Nalya' written by Ranjan Shaha and a discussion meeting. Among others former Upazila Chairman Talib Hossain, Khairul Bashar, Narayan Chandra Poddar and Ranjan Shaha discussed various aspects of the problems of group theatre organisations in the rural areas.

LALMONIRHAT

Tinbigha Corridor to Dahagram road construction completed

JULY 25: The construction of one kilometer long link road from Tin Bigha Corridor to Dahagram Chhitmahal was completed Wednesday, official sources here said, reports UNB.

The construction work on the Kutcha road was completed under food for works programme.

Deputy Commissioner of Lalmonirhat said the work has been done on urgent basis for the convenience of the chhitmahal people.

MAGURA

Jatiya party demands Ershad's release

JULY 25: Activists of Magura district Jatiya Party brought out a procession demanding release of the deposed president Ershad.

Later they held a street corner meeting at Chourangi square of the town and submitted a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner.

The meeting was addressed by Khan Ziaul Haque, Hasan Siraj Suja, Azizur Rahman and Kalpana Rani.

Speakers alleged that security of the commoners are at a stake due to rising trend of terrorism in different parts of the country. They blamed the government for the deteriorating law and order situation in the country.

NETRAKONA

Railway station beset with problems

JULY 25: Netrakona Railway Station with its manifold problems has been causing immense suffering to the passengers, reports UNB.

The waiting room for female passengers is in a pitiable condition while the station has no waiting room for the male passengers at all.

A waiting room said to be for first class passengers always remains under lock and key.

The station platform is used as shelter for the floating people who defecate on the railway line, polluting the area.

The station has no water supply as the only tubewell remains out of order round the year.

Local leaders urged the authorities to take necessary steps to improve the condition at the station immediately.

JHENIDAH

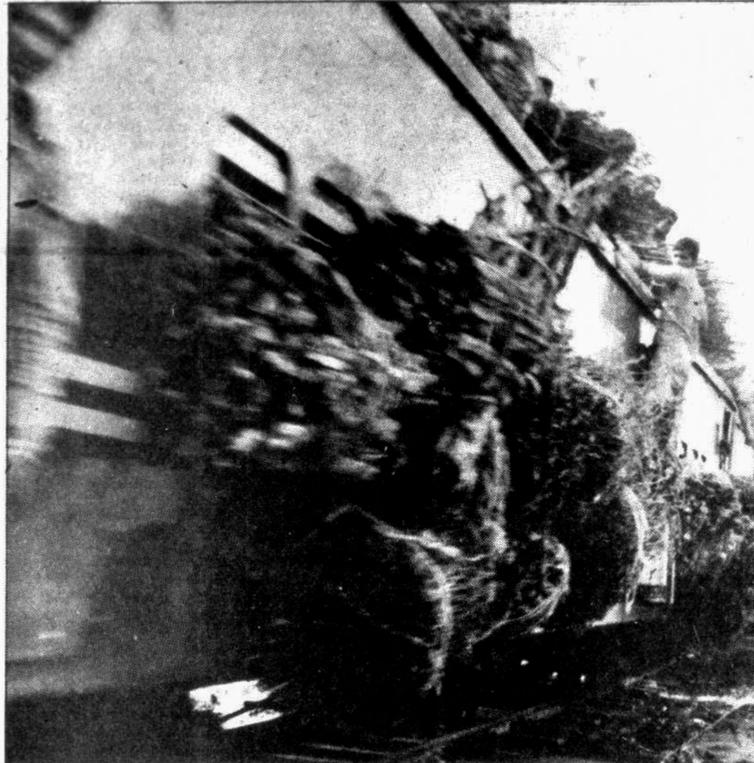
Release of Golam Azam demanded

JULY 25: The district unit of Jamaat-e-Islami organised a public meeting here on Monday demanding release of their leader Prof Golam Azam, reports UNB.

Held at the local Agrani Bank square the meeting criticised the 'midnight agreement' outside the parliament and decision to withdraw the case against 24 Gama Adalatis.

Chaired by Maulana Abdul Kassem, district Amcer of Jamaat the meeting was addressed, among others, by Abdus Sobhan, Noor Mohammad, Prof Nazrul Islam and Mozilul Haq.

Later a procession was brought out parading the main thoroughfares of the town chanting various slogans in favour of their demand.



GAZIPUR: Illegal cutting of trees and plants from the government owned forests has become a regular feature. The people use to carry the wood by train. — Star photo

Non-stop erosion of Teesta leaves 2250 families homeless

RANGPUR, July 25: Erosion by the river Teesta has been continuing unabated for the last three weeks rendering at least 2250 families homeless in Nohali and Alambiditor unions of Gangachara thana of the district, reports UNB.

Hundreds of acres of land including Aman seed bed were washed away by the river.

The worst affected villages are Kochuga, Purba Kochuga, Char Nohali and Bagdohora of Nohali Union and Bedgari, Borobil, Kholaga and Photamari of Alambiditor unions.

Chairman of Nohali Union told UNB that 300 feet of main embankment and 50 feet of cross dam were already washed by flood water threatening erosion of Khotamari mosque, Nohali Government Primary School, Nohali KNB Primary and High School, Bagdohora Primary School, Nohali Union Parishad office and Purba Kochuga Hori Temple.

Water Development Board began construction of piling while the local people are giving voluntary labour to curb the erosion.

The district administration has sanctioned 1220 kilogram of wheat as relief which he said is too small to their demand.

271 families homeless in two days

A report from Manikganj says: At least 271 families of 31 villages in three thanas of the district were rendered homeless on account of continued erosion by the rivers Padma and Jamuna over the last two days.

Water Development Board, thana and district administration sources said, about 21 families of 19 villages in Hari-rampur thana, 96 families of eight villages in Shibalaya and 154 families of four villages in Daulatpur were rendered homeless during the period.

Meanwhile, cargo vessel movement between Naryanganj and Bagabari remained suspended due to sharp rise in water levels of the rivers Padma and Jamuna, BIWTA officials at Aricha said Friday.

Another report from Rangpur adds: Agriculture Extension Department has taken up a programme to bring 23,34,367 acres of land under Aman cultivation in greater Rangpur and Dinajpur during the current season, official sources said.

The districts are Rangpur, Gaibandha, Kurigram, Thakurgaon and Panchagarh.

Out of the total, 15,51,635 acres will be brought under High Yielding Variety and 7,82,732 under local variety.

Aman paddy of about 10,05,000 metric tons is expected to be produced on implementation of the programme.

The BADC will provide the necessary fertilizer and irrigation equipment to the cultivators.

No bus terminal at Kushtia town

KUSHTIA, July 25: Bus passengers on different routes of the district have been facing difficulties for want of a bus terminal at the district headquarters.

Hundreds of bus passengers both male and female are found standing on the road sides under open sky for hours together avail buses on different routes.

In the absence of a bus terminal, the drivers used to park the vehicles here and there which causes inconvenience to the pedestrians. Local people informed that traffic management is virtually non-existent in the district town.

Local elites have urged the authorities to remove the bottlenecks in implementing the programme without further delay.

Fish fry catching unabated

Fish fry are being caught indiscriminately in different parts of the district defying the government ban.

Government has banned catching of fish fry below nine inches all over the country to increase fish production.

According to witnesses, huge quantity of different types of fish fry including ruhi, katla, mrigal, magur and shing are being sold in the markets of Sadar, Bheramara, Mirpur, Kumarkhali, Khoksa and Daulatpur thanas before the law enforcing agencies.

Local leaders said, the dilapidated condition of the primary school buildings, shortage of teachers and accommodation problems are hampering the implementation of the programme.

Many schools damaged by floods and other natural calamities in the last few years are yet to be repaired. Students of these schools are attending their classes in the open places.

UPEP faces setback

Universal Primary Education Programme in the district has been facing setback due to manifold problems in six thanas and in Pourashava areas.

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Drug addiction

UNB reports: Drug addiction among the youths is increasing in all six thanas of the district.

From Our Correspondent

Alcohol, opium, ganja and rectified spirit are being sold openly in pharmacy, grocery and vendors shops in these areas.

Despite restrictions, pharmacies are also selling morphin, sedextin, phenisidyl syrup and relaxen tablets to the addicts. It was alleged that a well organised group is engaged in smuggling these drugs from India through different border points in greater Kushtia district.

The drug addicted young people are often engaged in different types of crimes including hijacking.

Rival groups clash, 18 arrested

Police arrested 18 people following a clash between two rival groups in village Takimara on July 19 and 21 which left 35 injured.

The altercation between the supporters of two step brothers, Atau and Nazrul, over usage of irrigation equipment erupted into a severe clash ransacking 20 houses and looting.

The innocent villagers were forced to leave their homes due to fear of further assault and loss, it has been learnt.



JAMALPUR: The officers and staff of Dewanganj thana recently brought out a procession to motivate the local people in tree plantation. — Star photo

Notes from Jhenidah

JHENIDAH, July 25: The Jhenidah Eleven became champion Wednesday defeating Kaliganj Eleven by 4-2 goals in the Inter-thana Football Tournament, reports UNB.

The final match was played at the Jhenidah Stadium. Sahjahan netted two goals and Lachhu and Ratan one each for the winners while Badal and Razaque scored one each for Kaliganj Eleven.

Jhenidah Sports Association which organised the tournament declared Baki and Ratan as best players and highest scorers of the tournament.

Acting Deputy Commissioner of the district Khalilur Rahman distributed prizes at a simple ceremony in presence of thousands of football fans at the stadium.

School boy killed in road mishap

A school boy was killed in a bicycle crash at Ambagan in Kaliganj thana on Jessore-Jhenidah highway, police said.

Abul Hossain (16) of Ullah High School while going to his school riding on a bicycle was knocked down by a Jessore bound bus recently. He died on the spot.

The body was sent to Sadar Hospital for autopsy and police seized the bus but the driver, managed to flee.

A case was filed with the local police.

Nirmul body gheraos TNO office

Local unit of Ghatka Dalal Nirmul Committee as part of its central committee programme gheraoed the office of Sadar Thana Nirbahi Officer on Sunday.

They submitted a memorandum to the TNO to press home their demands.

The demonstrators during their siege chanted slogans demanding immediate execution of people's court verdict on Jamaat Chief Prof Golam Azam.

They also demanded immediate withdrawal of the 'false cases' against 24 leaders of the committee.

No-confidence move against UP chairman

Seven Union Parishad member of Sadar thana Wednesday brought no-confidence move against the sitting chairman Shahidul Islam Hiron for his alleged misappropriation of funds.

They submitted a memorandum of the Deputy Commissioner of the district on the same day urging him to take necessary action in this regard.

They also brought several corruption charges including nepotism, misbehaviour, abuse of power and misappropriation of government funds against the chairman.

Call to work for corruption free society

Social Welfare and Women's Affairs Minister Tarikul Islam has called upon all concerned to work for building a society free from exploitation, corruption, nepotism and all kinds of injustice.

He was addressing the biennial conference of Jhenidah district BNP at a local cinema hall here recently.

State Minister for Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control Mosharrif Hossain Shahjahan also addressed the conference. Mashtur Rahman MP presided over the conference, a PID handout said.

Referring to the importance of united movement against social maladies, Tarikul Islam said that the BNP supported by the majority population would materialise all of its pre-election commitment including 19-point programme one by one for the over-all welfare of the masses.

Members of the parliament Shahiduzzaman and Abdul Wahab were present in the conference.

In the conference, a new committee of Jhenidah district BNP was formed with Mashtur Rahman MP and Shahidul Islam MP as its President and General Secretary respectively.

Body recovered from border belt area

BRAHMANBARIA, July 25: Bangladesh Rifles recovered a body from a border belt near Kalachhari village in Sadar thana recently, reports UNB.

According to sources, Indian Border Security Forces informed the BDR of 32 Rifles Battalion at flag meeting that a Bangladeshi national was lying dead their territory.

The BDR men rushed to the spot, recovered the body and handed over it to local police.

The victim was identified as Shaheed Miah (30) of Kalikunda village in Nasirnagar thana.

A case has been filed with the police.

Food poisoning leaves 2 dead, 4 others sick

MANIKGANJ, July 25: Two cousins died recently and four others remained sick after they took meals and complained of intestinal disease Saturday noon at a village in Shibalaya thana, reports UNB.

Krishna Halder, 4, died at her house at Malochi this morning. Her teen-age cousin Jyotsna Halder (14) died one hour later after she was taken to Shibalaya thana health complex.

Among the four survivors, Ranjeet Halder (25) was admitted to the health complex in critical condition. Three others were given first aid.

Family sources thought it was a case of food poisoning, but the attending doctors in their register mentioned it as a diarrhoeal attack.

Our Correspondent says: Savar police arrested one person with a country-made revolver from Nagar village under Dhamrai thana of the district recently.

Acting on secret information, a police team raided the house of one Abdul Ohab, son of Abdul Majid at Ananda Nagar and Mohid Mia of same village under Dhamrai thana and arrested him with country-made revolver.

A case was registered with Dhamrai PS in this regard.

Our Correspondent adds:

Manikganj Sadar police recovered the body of a youngman from Gagara beel of the district recently.

Police arrested one Kalpana Rani (28), daughter of Fagar Ali of the same village for her alleged involvement with the murder of one Abdul Jalil (30).

A case has been registered with Manikganj police station in this regard.

Dacoits loot cash, valuables from train passengers

BOGRA, July 25: A gang of dacoits looted cash and valuables from the passengers of a Santhar bound mail train in between Nasaratpur and Altanagar stations of Lalmonirhat on Wednesday night, reports UNB.

Witnesses said some 10-12 dacoits travelling by the train in disguise of passengers attacked the passengers at about 11 pm and snatched away cash and valuables, including gold ornaments from the woman travellers.

The dacoits jumped from the running train near east outer of Nasaratpur station and decamped with the booty.

Massive tree plantation, campaign going on

FARIDPUR, July 25: Tree plantation campaign is going on in full swing in the district, reports BSS.

Besides government programme, a number of socio-cultural organisations and educational institutions imbued with the idea of bringing ecological balance in the surroundings, have chalked out an elaborate programme of tree plantation in the district.

Tree plantation campaign in local government Sarada Sundari Mahila College began on Monday sponsored by Faridpur Lions Club. Saplings of a foreign variety 'weeping debdaru' were planted in the college premises.

The campaign was participated by Professor Mian Lutfar Rahman, Principal of the college, ex-President of Lions Club Ferozer Rahman, Lions Club President Attar Rahman. A number of students of the college, Lions Club members and college teachers also participated in the programme.

Lions Club of Faridpur donated saplings to the college worth Taka 1,500.

The campaign was inaugurated at Rajendra University College premises. Principal of the college Professor Shamsur Rahman inaugurated the campaign.

According to an official source, about five lakh saplings will be planted in greater Faridpur district in the current season.

A report from Bandarban says: Bandarban hill district local government council has taken up a programme to distribute 4.50 lakh saplings of various trees among the people of seven thanas of the district free of cost in the current season.

According to an official source, Taka ten lakh have been sanctioned by the government for the execution of the project. Saplings have already been distributed by relevant authorities in Bandarban sadar thana, Rowagchari, Ruma, Thanchi, Lama, Nal-chongchari and Ali Kadar thanas.

Residents face problems

BRAHMANBARIA, July 25: The residents of Akhaura Customs Staff Quarters have been facing problems due to lack of basic amenities, reports UNB.

Scarcity of water, insufficient and irregular supply of electricity and lack of accommodation facilities are causing great difficulties to the residents for long.

The buildings of the Akhaura Customs Checkpost and the quarters are now in a dilapidated condition.

The buildings are old and disintegrated and even a slight rainfall causes oozing of waters through the leakage.

Many of the doors and windows of the buildings are damaged, which could not be repaired despite repeated appeals from the residents.

Due to lack of proper drainage system filthy waters very often overflow the surroundings and inundating the roads causing difficulties to the dwellers.

Irregular supply of water electricity also hamper the normal activities of the residents.

They urged the authorities to take steps to improve the situation on an urgent basis.

One gets life-term for killing boy

A man was awarded life imprisonment on charges of murdering a boy, court sources here said.

The prosecution story, in brief, is that the accused Babul Mia along with his accomplice Jabbar Mia entered the Karnafull Battery Service shop at Sarak Bazar, Akhaura, on March 29, 1990, murdered the inmate Dhan Miah (14) and decamped with valuable goods.

A case was file and police after investigation charge sheeted the accused. District and Sessions Judge Nazmun Ara Sultana awarded the life term to Babul Miah and acquitted Jabbar recently.

60 women take part in social leadership training

NARSINGDI, July 25: A nine-day training course on social leadership in achieving self reliance was concluding here amid much enthusiasm recently, reports UNB.

Organised by the Rural Economic Development Association (REDA), the training course was held at Portbazar Hasnabad in Raipura thana.

Milk output on decline

KUSHTIA, July 25: Milk production is declining rapidly in the district due to shortage of cows and fodder, reports UNB.

Sources said the number of cows is decreasing day by day because of large scale slaughter for beef.

Shortage of fodder and grazing fields have also affected milk production badly. Cattle diseases which destroy a considerable number of milch cows, the sources added.

Imported powder milk is, therefore, great demand which has shot up its price beyond reach of the fixed income group of people.

Another report says: A meeting of the NGOs working in urban and rural areas of the district for poverty alleviation was held on Saturday with the Deputy Commissioner in the chair.

Representatives from 14

NGOs attended the meeting held on July 18 at the conference room of the DC Syed Hafiz Uddin Ahmed.

He called upon the NGOs to devote themselves in poverty alleviation of the rural people adding most of the rural people of the country are poverty stricken and the NGOs should play a constructive role in raising the standards of living.

The DC also stressing the need for primary health care urged the NGOs to make the people aware about health and sanitation hazards so that they could get rid of water borne diseases.

The NGO representatives submitted their progress reports in the meeting.

The meeting reviewed the progress and discussed in details the difficulties faced by the NGOs in implementing their projects.