

**District roundup**

**NARSINGDI**

**Housewife killed by miscreants**

From Our Correspondent  
July 29: One housewife was beaten to death by some miscreants at village Kalakanda under Sadar thana of the district recently.  
It is learnt that a group of miscreants comprising about 25 to 26 attacked the house of one Fulmia and started to beat her mercilessly. At one stage, Fulmeher Begum (25), wife of Fulmia tried to resist the miscreants. Being angry, they cut off the throat of Fulmeher. The victim died on the spot.  
A case has been filed with Narsingdi sadar thana in this regard.

Another report adds: Valuables worth Taka 20 lakh burnt to ashes in a devastating fire at Hatidia Bazar under Monohardi thana recently.  
The fire originated from an electric short-circuit, it is gathered.

**JAMALPUR**

**Civil Surgeon office bldg inaugurated**

From Our Correspondent  
July 29: The newly constructed district Civil Surgeon office building was formally inaugurated by Sirajul Haque, Deputy Minister for Health and Family Welfare on July 25.  
In this connection, a meeting was held at its office auditorium with Askar Ali in the chair.

Another report adds: The district unit conference of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) was held here at Agricultural Research Institute auditorium on July 25.

Serajul Haque, Deputy Minister for Health and Family Welfare attended in the conference as chief guest.  
District BMA President and Civil Surgeon Askar Ali presided over the conference. It was addressed among others by S K Roy, Ahmed Syed, Abdul Jalil.

**MUNSHIGANJ**

**Lawyers' executives**

From Our Correspondent  
July 29: The election of Munshiganj Bar Library was held here at local bar library.  
Advocate Kazi Asfar Hossain and Advocate Bazur Rahman have been elected as President and Secretary respectively.  
The other office-bearers are — Advocates Nazrul Islam, Mazibur Rahman, Vice-president, Rafiqul Islam — Assstt Secretary, Sentu Chandra Das — Treasurer, Asrafal Islam — Literary Secretary, Goura Gopal Ganguli — Office Secretary and members Abdul Malek Bhuiyan, Md Delawar Hossain and Md Shah Alam.

**MADARIPUR**

**Prize giving ceremony held**

From Our Correspondent  
July 29: The prize giving ceremony of book reading competition, arranged by local unit of Bishaw Shahitto Kendro was held here at M Hafiz Memorial Public Library recently.  
Professor Anzad Ali Khan presided over the function. Deputy Commissioner of Madaripur attended in the function as chief guest while Secretary of Madaripur Bar Council as special guest.  
Fifty five best competitors were given prizes.  
Another report adds: Shantinagar embankment in the pourashava area of Madaripur has been threatened by the erosion of the river Arial Kha.

**MYMENSINGH**

**One killed, 10 hurt in road mishap**

July 29: One person was killed and ten others were injured when a bus collided with a truck near Churkha-Bazar on Dhaka-Mymensingh road under Kotwali thana recently, reports BSS.  
A passenger bus which was on its way to Irishal collided with a truck as a result one Abdul Rashid (13) was killed on the spot and 10 others were wounded.  
A case has been lodged in this connection but none was arrested so far.

**AGRI-VARSITY**

**Faculty of Agri 2nd yr classes from August 1**

July 29: The second year classes under the Faculty of Agriculture of Bangladesh Agriculture University (BAU) for the session 1990-91 will begin provisionally August 1, 1992, says a notification issued by the Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, says a Press release.  
The students who appeared at the BSc Ag (Hons) Part 1 examination for the session 1989-90, held in the month of April 1992, have been asked to attend the classes regularly.

**RAJSHAHI**

**Debt-ridden farmers selling crops in advance**

From Our Correspondent  
July 29: Farmers of the nine thanas of the district are compelled to sell their crops to the money lenders in advance at a nominal price for buying agricultural inputs for cultivation.

According to sources, the exorbitant rates of interest are Taka 20 to 25 per cent per month. The method of lending is so tricky that the borrowers have no way out to escape from clutches of the money lenders.

A large number of farmers have been passing their days in hardship. Often they sell their utensils and domestic animals to pay off the debt.

These unscrupulous money lenders have rendered hundreds of peasants and small traders landless.

**CHUADANGA**

**Plying of buses suspended over clash**

July 29: Plying of buses remained suspended in the Chuadanga-Jhenidah route from Sunday following a clash between the bus conductor and rickshawpullers, reports UNB.

The clash ensued at Dingadah bazar in which several people were injured on the same day.

The bus workers later called for indefinite strike demanding probe into the incident and punishment of the persons responsible for the clash.

**PATUAKHALI**

**Doctors give 1000 patients free treatment**

From Our Correspondent  
July 29: The doctors of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA), Barisal branch provided free treatment to 1000 patients recently.

Doctors attended the patients were Prof Abdul Rashid, Prof Faridul Islam, Prof Saba Alam, Prof Aziz Rahim, Prof Wazir Ahmad Chowdhury, Prof Matnuddin Ahmed, Dr. Aminul Huq, Dr. Altafuddin Ahmed, Dr. Khalilur Rahman and Dr. Syed Mahub Alam.  
Assistants were Dr. Tozammel Hossain, Dr. Md. Sahajahan, Dr. Md. Musa Howlader, Dr. Kabiruzzaman, Dr. Hurun-ur-Rashid, Dr. Halima Syeda, Dr. Jainal Ab-edin, Dr. Anwar Hossain, Dr. Nazma Hossain, Dr. Asaduzzaman and Dr. Jahangir Alam.

**BARISAL**

**Six dacoits to suffer 6 yrs RI**

From Our Correspondent  
July 29: Md Abdul Hossein, Additional and Session Judge of Barisal sentenced seven years rigorous imprisonment each to six convicted and Taka five hundred in default to suffer each three months more on charge dacoity.  
Convicted persons are Dhalu Howlader, Latif Sikdar, Abdul Gani Akand and three others Avinash, Babul and Reaz whose conviction was awarded in their absence recently.  
The case in brief, is that a gang of armed dacoits attacked the house of one Santi Rajan Saha of Bakerganj. They beat the inmates of the house mercilessly and decamped with gold ornaments and other valuable goods including cash from the house.  
Later Santi Rajan Saha lodged a case against six persons with the Bakerganj police.  
After proper investigation police chargesheeted under BPC 395/377 against these people.



JAMALPUR: The district unit of Family Planning Association recently brought out a procession on the occasion of the World Population Day. — Star photo

**Aus paddy on 20,000 acres under pest attack**

From Our Correspondent  
According to Agriculture Extension Department, pests have already attacked at least 1,000 acres of paddy in these districts and it is increasing day by day.  
The farmers of the areas informed that the pests are locally known as pamri and mazra pokas.  
The cultivation of aus paddy is late this year due to continuous drought. The pest attack at the middle point has been destroying the paddy very much.  
The target of aus cultivation in Rajbari was 1.15 lakh acres, 1.20 lakh acres in Faridpur.

**Smuggling rampant in Jessore**

From Our Correspondent  
JESSORE, July 29: Smuggling is going on large-scale along the border of the district for a long time causing mounting losses to the national economy.  
According to sources, transaction of contraband goods are being carried out freely and openly through new technique.  
Smugglers are crowding ghats (border point) day and night from different places with cycles, motor cycles, scooters, vans and microbuses for transportation of the goods.  
Ghat maliks (care takers) are appointed there with the duty of giving line, handle affairs, collect their share and keep complete account to daily transactions. They work like C&F agents.  
Kulia, Daulatpur, Arsinghra, Pukuria, Goira, Gadadharpur, Moshampur, Shahzadpur and Kabilpur under Chowgacha and Kashipur, Salkona, Laxmipur, Nizampur, Bahadurpur, Daulatpur, Goga and Benapok under Sharash thana in the district are the main points of smuggling.  
According to another report, cards are being issued by all thanas of the districts to smugglers both professional and probational for safety in their illegal business.  
A new unofficial post, 'cashier' has been created in each thana. He is in charge of the thana for collection of monthly or weekly payments. He goes on field visit regularly and settles problems if any.  
Besides, in plain cloths, the thana police move around the areas from time to time to check the validity of the cards issued by them for carrying the illegal trade through payments. They issue of card is an open secret.  
The incoming smuggled goods from Indian include sugar, paddy, rice, salt, cycle, spare parts, motor chesis, medicines, sarees, matches, cattle, fruits and vegetables.  
The outgoing smuggled goods are VCP, polyester clothes, hilsa fish, gold, silver, bronze, copper and bearings.  
There is no denying the fact that almost all the markets of the district have been flooded with the smuggled Indian goods.  
It is complained that the role of the law enforcing agencies is responsible for the large-scale smuggling along the border and its sale to the different markets of the district.  
It is learnt that the smuggling will further increase if appropriate measures are not taken by the concerned authority.  
UNB from Feni says: Bangladesh Rifles here have seized contraband goods worth about Taka 6 lakh and arrested 6 alleged smugglers at Mohipal bus stand of the district.  
They also seized seven vehicles in an operation on July 21.  
The contraband goods included 1967 pieces of Indian sarees and 200 bottles of phenisidyl syrup.  
Acting on tip, BDR rushed to the bus stand and raided seven night coaches, seized the goods and arrested the smugglers.  
They were identified as, Ruhul Amin of village Kodalia, Jalal Uddin of village Shahpur, Abul Kalam and Abul Kashem of village Baytera of Choudagram thana of Comilla district and Subash Das of Sarshadigari and Robindra Kumar Das of village Chardarbes of Sonagazi thana of Feni district.  
The seized goods were handed over to the local customs.

**Bauls, followers of Lalon in deplorable condition**

Bauls, who lead ascetic life and claim to be the followers of Sufi saint Lalon Shah, are in a deplorable condition in Chuadanga district following a hitch with some local people in village Shialmari of Alamdanga.  
However, DC of Chuadanga told UNB Correspondent at Jhenidah that the situation at Shialmari is normal at the moment and assured his whole hearted cooperation for the security of every member of the community.  
The issue of the repression on bauls was raised by SP of the district at a District Law and Order Committee Meeting last week, he added.  
Bauls also live in Rajshahi, Jhenidah and Kushtia district and adjacent areas, around the shrine of Lalon Shah where thousands of spectators, followers and researchers throughout the world gathered annually.  
In Chuadanga, at least 50-60 baul families reside in four villages of Alamdanga thana. These are Shialmari, Kotiappara, Majhab and Krisnapur.  
Situation in Shialmari recently turned worse where some local people has a brawl with the bauls last March which led to the eviction of the baul family in the last week of April, allegedly by the instigation of some influential people of the area.  
Informed sources said some local people backed by the former UP member Ohid Hossain compelled the bauls to leave the village in the face of social boycott.  
Local people said bauls of Shialmari did not vote for Ohid Hossain in the last UP election, which might be the reason behind Ohid's annoyance.  
When contacted present UP Chairman Abul Kalam told UNB correspondent at Jhenidah, most of the bauls and their families have returned to Shialmari but two bauls — Riazuddin and Khaleque are yet to return.  
They are not coming to their residence as former UP member and Chairman candidate of last UP election Ohid reportedly threatened them, he added.  
But UNB correspondent at Chuadanga said the number of bauls who have not yet returned to the village would be at least five including baul guru Fazlur Rahman.  
Another source said Riazuddin and Khaleque are unable to return back to village as supporters of Ohid have become annoyed after filing two cases against them.  
However, Chuadanga thana court recently acquitted all of them as the petitioners failed to appear in the court on three to four successive dates.  
He also alleged that the supporters of Ohid were checking them from going to the upazila court even after the filing of the two cases against them.  
On the otherhand, the opposing group submitted another application to the DC and brought allegation against the bauls that they were indulged in anti-social activities and instigating local Muslim believers to follow the baul ideology.  
Usually bauls remain detached from people who claim to be 'sariatee' and never interfere in their activities.  
According to them, 'know thyself' must be the motto of human life and it can be done by following the instructions of a Guru or a Sufi, who has become completely free from the materialistic life.  
Talking to UNB, the UNO of Alamdanga admitted that bauls of the district were being attacked twice, when they had taken an initiative to hold a function near the central office of bauls, Sufi Baul and sadhu-Guru Seba Sangha, at Porapara in Damurhata thana of the district.  
He, however, said the situation, by this tie, has become normal in Shialmari village and most of the bauls who left their residences, are now leading normal life compromising with the their non-baul Muslim neighbours.  
It may be mentioned that President of the Lalon Parishad and Assistant Director (Research) of Bangla Academy Dr Riazul Huq in a letter on May 13, suggested the bauls of Shialmari to adjust themselves with the non-baul neighbours.  
Dr Riazul Huq, who recently got Ph D on the life and works of Lalon Shah, claim that Lalon Shah was not a 'baul' and the philosophy of the bauls is not at all lined with the teachings of Lalon.  
A Lalon expert Golam Mostafa, however, told UNB, 'baul' is an Arabic word, which means who conceive their life and living beyond all 'dharms' or phenomenon world. He added that in that sense Lalon was a typical baul.  
However, all those followers of Lalon can not be called baul, Golam Mostafa said.



JESSORE: The law enforcing agencies reportedly issue such kinds of slips for clearance of the smuggled goods. — Star photo

**Woman held with 90 gram heroin**

GAIBANDHA, July 29: Palashbari thana police arrested one female heroin seller and recovered 90 grams of heroin worth Taka one lakh from her possession on July 26, reports BSS.  
Police source said when the culprit was coming out of a house in village Jamalpur near Gaibandha after purchasing heroin she was challenged by the police. Police recovered 90 grams of heroin from her possession. She hails from Shibpur under sadar thana.

**Former UZ Chairman faces misappropriation charge**

BOGRA, July 29: Anti-corruption Bureau has chargesheeted three people including a former Upazila Chairman for alleged misappropriation of allocated rice under Food for Work Programme, reports UNB.  
The accused are former Chairman Abdul Jalil, Assistant Engineer Amir Hossain and Project Chairman and also UP Member Alauddin.  
They allegedly misappropriated 135.30 mds of rice worth Taka 41,814 from a project in Gariadaha Union of Sherpur thana.  
Soon after filing cases against the three accused Jalil went into hiding, engineer Hossain released on bail while Alauddin was sent to jail.  
In another incident the Bureau has chargesheeted six people including some senior bank officials for alleged defalcation of Taka 70 lakh.

**Four held with forged notes in Bandarban**

BANDARBAN, July 29: Bandarban police recovered forged notes worth Taka 27,900 from Turabi Hotel in Bandarban town and arrested four persons in this connection recently, report BSS.  
Acting on secret information, a police team led by Officer-in-Charge of Bandarban Thana raided the hotel and recovered the forged notes-54 of them are 500 taka notes and nine of them 100 taka notes.  
Police source said the arrested persons are Abul Hossain, Abdul Jalil, Nurul Amin, and Aminul Huq.  
A case has been registered with Bandarban thana.  
Afforestation programme sponsored by different government, autonomous and non-government organisations is going on in full swing from July 1, throughout Bandarban district.  
Official sources said, meanwhile Bandarban Hill District Local Government Council distributed saplings of various trees valued at Taka ten lakh among the members of the public in seven thanas of the district.

**Water supply irregular at Barisaltown**

From Our Correspondent  
BARISAL, July 29: Supply of pure drinking water in Barisal poura area is becoming more or less irregular day by day.  
On the otherhand, the 5-districts drinking water supply project has already been started but this project is hardly helping the people of the pourasava area.  
According to environmental experts, the water supplied for the people is not perfectly suitable for drinking purpose, because it contains coliforms more or less. It is also informed that at any time the project may be collapsed.  
To implement this project, expenditure was about 19 crore taka, with a view to supply pure drinking water to the people of five districts of Barisal, Comilla, Jessore, Mymensingh and Bogra this project was under taken in 1980 with the financial assistance of Asian Development Bank (ADB) and UNDP.  
Feasibility study for this project had been done by a Japanes company by 1978-79 last.  
Meanwhile, construction of 5 overhead water tanks, sinking of 12 deep tubewells and installation of 80 km water pipelines have already been completed but still now some other relating works are yet to be done though the payments of the contractors had already been made.  
It is alleged that within this time two of the 12 deep tubewells are not working properly as the pump motors seem to be disorder.  
Due to faulty construction, water is leaking almost non-stop from two overhead water tanks. It was also seen that so many tanks were not properly cleaned before pouring water.  
According to some departmental sources, contractors have used low quality machinery including spare parts.

**Workshop on relationship of volunteers**

COMILLA, July 29: A three-day workshop on Volunteer Staff Relationship began here at BARD conference room Tuesday, reports UNB.  
The workshop, sponsored by the Family Planning Association, was inaugurated by Almgir MA Kabir, President of FPAB.  
A good number volunteers including foreigners are taking part for improvement of the roads and Taka 28 lakh 50 thousand for water supply. The rest amount would cover up the other expenditures, the chairman said.  
The chairman further informed that, 27 schemes were taken up with a total expenditure of Taka 39 lakh 31 thousand of whom, three had already been completed.  
Under the ADP schemes, works on eight projects had already been completed while the rest two would be completed soon.  
A total amount of Taka 23 lakh, was sanctioned for these schemes.

**Tk 12.60 cr for uplift of Sylhet Pourashava**

From Our Correspondent  
SYLHET, July 29: A development budget of Taka 12 crore 60 lakh has been declared for the Sylhet Pourashava for the year 1992-93.  
AFM Kamal, Chairman, Sylhet Pourashava declared the budget at a Press Conference at his office chamber on July 27.  
Out of the total Taka 4 crore 5 lakh and 6 thousand will be collected from the own sources of pourashava i.e through collection of taxes for holding, lighting, conservancy, business and others. The rest amount, Taka 30 lakh would be received as the government's grant for the execution of projects under Annual Development Programmes.  
Taka one crore 25 lakh are expected to be received as special grant for execution of flood damaged schemes, Taka one crore from leasing out the shops of the markets while Taka six crore are expected to be received from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) under the medium-type town development project.  
The budget shows a target expenditure of Taka one crore for the sports and cultural programmes, Taka 40 lakh for setting up a new residential area at Bagbari, Taka 75 lakh