

District roundup

KISHOREGANJ

Young housewife commits suicide

From Our Correspondent

Aug 26: A young housewife Jahanara Khatun (22) of village Charkawna in Pakundia thana committed suicide by taking poison recently.

Family feud is believed to be the main reason of committing suicide.

One Abdul Kadir (27) of village Jallaghat in Nandail thana committed suicide by hanging himself from the branch of a tree. No cause of the suicide could be ascertained immediately.

Two separate UD cases were registered with the respective police station in this connection.

Another report adds: A 34 year old man, Zasmuddin hanged himself to death from the branch of a tree at village Savar in Nandail thana recently.

According to police, Zasmuddin of village Khawra in Ishwarganj thana came to his brother-in-laws house the previous day where he committed suicide.

The cause behind the suicide could not be known.

A UD case was registered with Nandail Police Station in this connection. The body was later sent to Kishoreganj Sadar Hospital for post mortem.

MAULVIBAZAR

Post of AC (Land) lying vacant for last 3 months

From Our Correspondent

MAULVIBAZAR, Aug 26: The post of Assistant Commissioner (Land) at Kulaura thana of the district has been lying vacant for last three months.

It may be mentioned here that Assistant Commissioner (Land) of Kulaura thana was transferred to Ruhingya Camp in Cox's Bazar district three months ago. After his transfer, no officer has yet to be posted against the post.

Local elite have urged the authorities to fill up vacancy to redress the sufferings of the people.

Another report adds: Mushroom growth of road-side hotels and restaurants in markets areas of Maulvibazar town has long been posing threat to public health.

Most of these hotels and restaurants have sprung up by the side of lanes and by-lanes amid unhygienic condition.

BARISAL

Miscreants gauge out eyes of one

From Our Correspondent

Aug 26: Eyes of one Wazed Ali (40) were gauged out and one eyewitness Sobhan Mia (28) was injured seriously by a gang of armed miscreants numbering about twenty to twenty five at Jambadwip village of Banaripara thana under Barisal district.

According to local sources miscreants coming to the house of Wazed Ali dragged him out and chopped him with a ramdao indiscriminately and at one stage, they gauged out his eyes.

Sobhan Mia an eyewitness was caught by the miscreants and injured him severely.

A case has been lodged with the Banaripara PS in this connection.

JAMALPUR

Police seize 83 Indian cows with 14 smugglers

From Our Correspondent

Aug 26: Jamalpur thana police recently seized 83 Indian cows from Nandina Ferry Ghat of the district.

According to police sources, a police party led by Sub-Inspector Khalilur Rahman raided four shallow boat in Brahmaputra river at Nandina Ferry Ghat and seized 83 Indian cows along with 14 smugglers.

The arrested smugglers are: Miraj Ali, Tara Mia, Sukur Mahmud, Hekim, Quddus, Alias, Shah Alam, Hazrat Ali, Letif, Rashid, Jainal, Chan Mia, Rafiq, Tara Mia.

A case has been lodged with Jamalpur thana in this connection.

BRAHMANBARIA

Retd Soldiers' Welfare Assoc meet held

From Our Correspondent

Aug 26: A meeting of the Retired Soldiers Welfare Association of Kasba thana of the district was held here at Kasba Adarsha School premises recently.

The meeting was presided over by Capt (Retd) Kafiluddin. The betterment of retired soldiers were discussed in the meeting.

Later, a 51-member welfare committee was formed.

Another report says: Leaders of different political parties of the district condemned the attack on Rashed Khan Menon and demanded exemplary punishment to the culprits.

CHANDPUR

German team visits town protection plan

Aug 26: A two-member delegation of Germany International Co-operation Agency visited "Chandpur Town Protection Scheme" on Saturday, reports BSS.

They were accompanied by Chief Engineer, Planning Division of Bangladesh Water Development Board and other senior officials.

They visited erosion affected areas of Chandpur Natun Bazar and Puran Bazar areas.

The team visited the erosion affected areas of Chandpur in order to finance the project in the light of the Meghna Survey Report. The Meghna Survey Report was prepared by the World Bank. The World Bank proposed to implement "Chandpur Town Protection Scheme" at a cost of Taka 300 crore.

SATKHIRA

Police round up 197, recover 12 arms

From Our Correspondent

Aug 26: Police rounded up a total of 197 alleged miscreants and recovered 12 fire-arms and ammunition from seven thanas of the district under 'Operation August 92' during the last fortnight.

Police recovered 5 fire arms from Satkhira Sadar, 2 revolvers from Kalaroa, 2 cut rifles from Kaliganj seven round of cartridges were also recovered by the police.

Police super, Satkhira, Hasan Farid Ahmed, told this correspondent that the arrested miscreants included absconders, dacoits, terrorists, illegal fire-arms holders and notorious criminals wanted for various cases.

GAIBANDHA

Body of minor boy exhumed

From Our Correspondent

Aug 26: Body of one eight year old child Sadar Ali was exhumed in presence of magistrate at village Ujan Bochagari under Sunderganj thana recently and sent to Gaibandha for autopsy.

The victim was missing from house since August 10 and his body was recovered on August 12 from a pond adjacent to a house of one Hasen Ali. A UD case was filed with Sunderganj Thana. But the victim was buried before the reaching of police on the spot.

Police however exhumed the body from the grave in presence of magistrate and sent to Gaibandha for post-mortem. None has been arrested in this connection as yet.

PABNA

Law, order situation deteriorates

From Our Correspondent

Aug 26: Law and order situation in nine thanas of the district further deteriorated last week despite the anti-crime drive, reports UNB.

Police said they nabbed about 500 anti-social elements and recovered huge quantity of fire arms and ammunition during the last three weeks.

But, knowledgeable sources said, the law and order situation in the district worsened as the real mastans, toll collectors and terrorists remained scot-free.

Police sources said, three dacoities, two murders, nine riotings, 12 thefts, 10 rape cases and 17 other crimes were committed during the last one week.



BOGRA: The students of one of the primary schools of the district are attending classes under a banyan tree as the school house is unworthy of use. — Star photo

Law, order situation worsens in Jessore district

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE, Aug 26: Law and order situation is deteriorating throughout the district for quite sometime past causing life and property insecure.

The situation in Kotwali thana is exceeding all previous records by wide margin. Violence, terrorism, lawlessness have now become a regular phenomenon in the area. The local town is the worst hit area.

Attack and counter-attack, killing in clashes between two rival groups, armed attack on party leaders and attempt to murder, killing by throwing bomb, stabbing and shoot-out by the miscreants have been occurring every now and then.

The persons involved in various anti-social activities are found in front line of different processions and meetings.

These are people are also moving around before the law enforcing personnel.

It is informed that the law enforcing people use to harass the innocent youths for which the parents are to pass their days in anxiety.

Similar situation is prevailing in the Chowgacha thana area. During the last few months, violence, terrorism and dacoity are being committed by a particular group. Looting at Alikader shop at Chowgachabazar, assault on Bakhturuzzaman of Jatiya Party, was committed by the same group who attacked Alauddin of Chowgacha and struck him by sharp weapon near Sonali Bank branch in presence of thana police.

Dacoity was committed at Kagerpara Road were a trader

of cattle of Fatepur was robbed and indiscriminate assault at Shingajhuly was also done by the same group.

The group consists of Walur, Tauhid and Mohiuddin who are led by Gobindo Kumar has become the terror to the peace-loving people of the area.

It is learnt that if one goes for any police help the matter is referred to the head of the ruling party for settlement through compromise. This is the role of the thana police now a days.

When contacted, a high police official informed this correspondent that they do the same for keeping the situation under control with the cooperation of elite of the locality.

Child labourers on increase

MANIKGANJ, Aug 26: Child labourer is spreading rapidly in the seven thanas of the district, according to a survey report made available here today, reports UNB.

At least 69,000 children between 8 and 10 years are engaged in various odd jobs all over the district, mainly in the district town and thana headquarters, the report says.

It says recurrent floods, erosion, drought, storm, cyclones and other natural calamities have turned the marginal farmer families into destitutes. They have moved to the urban centres in search of food and shelter after losing all their belongings.

Besides, most poor parents have been suffering from various diseases caused by malnutrition and unhygienic living compelling their children to go for odd jobs.

The jobs include helpers in tea-stalls and hotels, rickshaw pullers, cobblers, shoe shiners and domestic servants, assistants at motor garages, welding workshops and brick fields.

Some of the minor boys are better off working as newspaper hawkers and vendors on Aricha-Dhaka Highway, and Aricha-Nagarbari and Daulatdia Ferry Ghats.

The child labourers have to work for more than 13 hours every day at very nominal wages the report adds.

2 orphan girls married

FARIDPUR, Aug 26: Two orphan inmates of "Sarkari Shishu Sadan", a government orphanage, got married here last week, reports UNB.

The marriage ceremony of the orphan girls Shilpi and Aymoni Begum was held at the orphanage premises on August 14. M A Bari, Director General, Social Welfare Department attended the ceremony as chief guest.

Both the brides brought up in the orphanage married to Shamim and Azad, hailed from Bhatti Laxmipur and Alipur in the town.

The brides were presented necessary household articles including utensils, crockery and sarees. They were also given Taka 10,000 each in cash to have a good start of family life.

The Islamic Foundation, Faridpur branch presented two rickshaws to the grooms to help them earning their livelihood.

The marriage ceremony was attended by a large number of people including social and political workers, journalists and elite of the town.

Construction work on

BHOLA, Aug 26: Construction work is in full swing on Manpara Hazir Hat Irrigation project, reports UNB.

The project is being implemented by the district Water Development Board at a cost of Taka 4.20 crore.

The project envisages a 36 km embankment, three sluice gates, three regulators and three flushing sluice gates.

According to sources, 25 per cent work has already been completed and the remaining work is expected to be completed during the current fiscal year.

On completion of the project, about seven thousand six hundred acres of land will be brought under irrigation facilities and annual production of foodgrains will increase by 1.5 lakh maunds.

ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Rich in conch shells, poor in visitor strength

—Mohammad Amjad Hossain

Time and again, we have been told that Cox's Bazar is the longest natural sea beach in the world. If true, one could naturally expect a large number of tourists to visit this spot. The expectation hasn't materialised so far although certain facilities like a swimming pool and a golf link have been built in the recent years.

Cox's Bazar, which is named after Lieutenant Cox of the British Army, is located beautifully on a low range of sandhills between the Bagkhali river (formerly known as Khurusia) and the Bay of Bengal. It may be recalled that Mr Cox, who died in 1798, had established a colony of Maghs after they had sought shelter in British territory following the conquest of Arakan by the Burmese. Therefore, two-thirds of the population in Cox's Bazar are descendants of Magh refugees. Other segments of the society are Bengalee Buddhists, Christians and Muslims. Bengalee Muslims, however, constitute majority of the population.

Having perhaps one of the world's longest unbreakable beaches, the Cox's Bazar coastline is rich in rare conch shells. Along the shore is a forest where many species of wild life have their habitat. So far this is probably the only sea beach which is free from industrial pollution. The beach is sandy with a gentle slope. Cottages, motels and hotels are there around the sea beach, but there is no provision for a drinking bar of any nature. To make the beach attractive for the foreign tourists certain measures may be taken to raise it to the international level.

What is specially lacking is a system of netting out the incursion of child sharks into the shallow waters of the beach - They may be small but are quite capable of biting off whole limbs of men and women. One thing that annoys the bathing visitors by its constant presence is the crowd that gathers around them with nothing but the lewd in their eyes.

Cox's Bazar town, 152 kilometres south of Chittagong, is

connected by road and air from Dhaka and Chittagong. By bus from Chittagong it takes almost four hours to reach Cox's Bazar. The condition of some houses are quite good indeed, but the road to Cox's Bazar needs improvement. A well thought out plan is required to construct motels and restaurants at some scenic spots along the beach which will offer moderate rates both for home and external tourists. For the purpose of competition hotel management may be left in the private sector. The idea of leasing out restaurants to the tourist corporation is a welcome one.

During my recent visit to Cox's Bazar I found that the town was humming with all kinds of activities. Roads leading to the beach from the town need to be rebuilt in the national interest. The beach is also spoilt by garbage which needs cleaning regularly.

With the influx of Rohingya Muslim refugees from Myanmar the pressure on the local administration has gone beyond their capacity to take. They feel that much more efficient and energetic young administrators are required to cater to the needs of the administration till the repatriation of the Myanmar refugees.

Non-government foreign agencies and United Nations High Commission for Refugees have opened their temporary offices to look after the welfare of the Rohingya refugees. With the opening of offices of foreign organisations a good number of foreigners have arrived and are temporarily residing in Cox's Bazar. The scope of tourist organisation for expansion of their business like promotional activities can hardly be overemphasised. What I gather from the tourist organisation is that they are planning to open up a spot exclusively for foreign tourists where all conceivable modern amenities would be available. Examples of Muslim Countries like Indonesia, Malaysia and Egypt for expansion of their tourist industries may be practised in this context.

Youngman gets life-term for violating minor girl

BRAHMANBARIA, Aug 26: A young man was sentenced to life term in abstentia on Tuesday on charge of violating a minor girl, reports UNB.

Court sources said, the accused Arun Chakrabarty has also been fined Taka 50,000 in default to suffer five years more rigorous imprisonment.

According to prosecution, Aurun raped Pritikana Chkrabarty (5) daughter of Rupjit Chakrabarty of Pirtala area in Sadar thana on February 16, 1987.

The Additional District and Session Judge Khademul Islam after examining the records and witnesses delivered the judgement on Tuesday.

Six people have been sentenced to 10 years rigorous imprisonment in a dacoity case.

Diarrhoea claims 7, attacks 100 in tea garden

MAULVIBAZAR, Aug 26: Diarrhoea has claimed seven lives and attacked over 100 others in Dairachara Tea Garden of Sreemongal thana, unconfirmed reports said, reports UNB.

Local people said the disease broke out in an epidemic form in the area. Consumption of adulterated food and impure water are said to be the main causes of the out break of the disease.

Police arrested 357 alleged miscreants and recovered

by the District and sessions Judge here.

The judge also fined of the accused Taka 5000 each, in default to suffer one year of RI more.

According to the prosecution, on January, 1988 the accused persons travelling by a Dhaka bound night coach, in guise of passengers, attacked the Ansar guards and looted belongings of the passengers near Barura village in Sarail thana. They also took away the rifles from the Ansars.

A case was lodged with Sarail Police Station and police after investigation submitted charge sheet against eleven people.

The Judge after examining the records and witnesses punished the six people and acquitted five others.

One shot dead in Chuadanga

CHUADANGA, Aug 26: A man was killed by some unknown miscreants at village Dalka Lakshampur of Damurhuda thana of the district Sunday night, reports UNB.

Police said the miscreants called out the victim Tuku (36) from his house at midnight and shot him dead in a nearby field.

The reason of the killing was not known immediately. A case has been filed with Damurhuda police.

Dacoits loot valuables

KUSHTIA, Aug 26: Dacoity was committed Monday night at the house of one Badaruddin at Mollataghoria, near Kushtia town, reports BSS.

A gang of dacoits armed with bombs and lethal weapons raided the house and looted goods and cash worth Taka forty thousand.

The inmates of the house caught one dacoit Shahidul Islam and beaten him to death.

Police Super on hearing bomb sound rushed with force and chased the dacoits.

The injured inmates of the house were admitted to hospital in critical condition.

Another dacoity was committed Monday night in a minibus at Baliapara, eight miles from here.

The dacoits decamped with cash and ornament worth Taka twentyfive thousand.



CHANDPUR: Local Central Rotary Club recently organised a charitable dispensary for the poor people of the rural area. — Star photo

Reckless driving leaves passengers in danger

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Aug 26: Reckless driving and over loading of buses and trucks on Rajshahi-Bogra, Rajshahi-Nawgaon and Rajshahi-Chapainawabganj routes continued to endanger the lives of hundreds of passengers and pedestrians, reports UNB.

Local leaders informed that buses plying on these routes carry passengers on the roofs violating the traffic rules and run at a speed beyond limit causing frequent accidents.

The buses and trucks often stop for picking up passengers and loading and unloading of goods at different points causing traffic jam.

Besides, emission of smoke

from burn gasoline has been polluting the environment, they said.

Local people have urged the concerned authorities to take steps, to check traffic violation and ensure safety of passengers.

A report from Kushtia says: A youngman was seriously injured when a speeding truck hit him on the Jhenidah-Kushtia Highway Tuesday.

Witnesses and hospital sources said that the victim Kazi Ziaul Islam (22), a clerical staff of Kushtia District Sports Association met the accident at Chorham, near the town.

About two lakh take FP devices in Barisal

BARISAL, Aug 26: A total of 1,98,988 persons including women took Family Planning devices in ten thanas of Barisal district in 1991-92 fiscal year, reports BSS.

According to District Family Planning Office sources, of the total, 44,485 persons including 39,281 women adopted permanent Family Planning devices during the period.

The Family Planning activities were carried out by welfare centres, thana health complexes, local hospitals and clinics, the source said.

Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKB), Barisal Zone has been disbursing a sum of Taka 69.22 crore as agriculture loan among the farmers of eleven southern districts through its 191 branches in the current

fiscal year. According to an official source, the loan is being disbursed for the cultivation of aus, aman, boro, wheat, potato, miz and purchase of cattle and agricultural equipment.

Of the total, Taka 7,34,000 will be disbursed in Barisal district, Taka 6,93,35,000 in Bhola, Taka 5,89,15,000 in Pirojpur, Taka 3,70,75,000 in

Jhalakati, Taka 7,61,80,000 in Patuakhali, Taka 7,26,00,000 in Barguna, Taka 10,79,35,000 in Faridpur, Taka 4,09,90,000 in Gopalganj, Taka 4,71,00,000 in Madaripur, Taka 5,08,35,000 in Shariatpur and Taka 5,97,15,000 in Rajbari districts, the source said.