

District roundup

GAIBANDHA

Husband gets lifetime for killing wife

From Our Correspondent

Aug 30 : Azam Ali Sarker of village Mohadevpur under Shaghata Thana was sentenced to suffer life imprisonment on charge of killing wife.

The judgement was declared by the District and Session Judge Kamrul Islam Siddiqui in absence of the accused and fined Taka 5,000. The prosecution case was that accused Azam married for second time with out the notice of first wife Sanu Bibi that created dissatisfaction between husband and wife.

On February 4, 1991 when Sanu Bibi was returning from her relative's house accused Azam resisted her and there ensued hot exchange of words. At one stage accused Azam stabbed her and fled away. The victim died at hospital next day. The case was conducted by Public Prosecutor Rahamatullah Azad.

PATUAKHALI

Beggars on increase

Aug 30 : The number of beggars has increased in different thanas of the district during the recent months, reports UNB.

Local leaders said there is little opportunity for employment in the rural areas of the district and as a result most of the poor families have turned into beggars. A large number of poor people are coming to thana and district townships in search of employment every day to maintain their livelihood and finding no other way out they are resorting to begging.

Mentionable that floods, river erosion and other natural calamities render hundreds of marginal and landless farmers destitute every year.

In the absence of proper rehabilitation scheme the number of these destitutes has been increasing alarmingly in the district. These people are also resorting to immoral and anti-social activities to eke out their living.

SIRAJGANJ

Anniversary of Tarkabagish's death observed

For Our Correspondent

Aug 30: The sixth death anniversary of Moulana Abdur Rashid Tarkabagish was observed at the birthplace of the leader in village Salanga under Raiganj thana recently.

The Tarkabagish Memorial Parishad took up day long programme including Quran khwan, Milad mahfil and discussion meeting. The speakers urged upon the government and all other concerned to take steps for safeguarding the memories of Moulana Tarkabagish.

COMILLA

Khelaghar Ashar for finding out its missing member

Aug 30 : A meeting of the Matho Khelaghar Ashar held here last week demanded enquiry into the mysterious disappearance of a member Ruma, reports UNB.

The meeting was presided over by Obaidul Kabir Mohan, an advisor of the Ashar.

A large number of its members, well-wishers and local elite who attended the meeting also condoned the death of the innocent girl.

Ruma (12) was missing from her house since August 9. After a hectic search her dead body with multiple injuries was found later.

A case has been registered with Kotwali police but neither the motive of the murder could yet be ascertained nor the assailants could be identified.

MAGURA

Brother, sister drowned

Aug 30 : A brother and a sister drowned in a pond at village Lakarpura of Dupchanchia thana on Thursday, reports UNB.

Family sources said Shefali (7) and Soheli (3), son and daughter of Azizur Rahman went to the pond for bath. But suddenly when Soheli slipped into the pond Shefali got alarmed and jumped to rescue her brother. Later, both of them met the watery grave.

Local people rushed to the spot and recovered the floating bodies.

JAMALPUR

625 tons of wheat allotted for uplift works

Aug 30 : Relief and rehabilitation meeting has allotted 625 metric tons of wheat for the district under rainy season Food for Works Programme, officials sources said, reports BSS.

Thana wise allocation is Jamalpur Sadar-149 tons, Madarganj-78, Sarishabari-86, Melandah-82, Islampur-92, Dewanganj-76 and Bakshiganj-65 metric tons of wheat.

Sources said that the wheat will be utilised in various development schemes.

JHENIDAH

AL gheraos TNO office

From Our Correspondent

Aug 30 : About 500 people under the banner of Awami League gheraoed the office of Mohehpur Thana Nirbahi Officer on last Saturday noon protesting the failure of the ruling party to curb terrorism and to harass the opposition leaders filing false cases against them.

Presided over by local leader Nizamuddin Ahmed a protest meeting was held at Nirbahi office premise in which Emdadul Haq Bulu and Sazzatul Islam Sazzat spoke. Speakers demanded immediate release of the local Awami League leader Raihan Uddin. They also demanded the fixation of jute and sugar cane prices at Taka 500 and 50 respectively.

A large procession was brought out and a memorandum was placed to the Thana Nirbahi Officer in favour of their demand.

MAULVIBAZAR

Imams samity meet held

From Our Correspondent

Aug 30 : A meeting of Imam Samity of Maulvibazar district committee was held at local Islamic Foundation auditorium recently with Maulana Farukur Rashid in the chair.

The meeting was addressed among others by Moulana Nurul Islam and Maulana Abdus Sattar.

Imams in the meeting demanded government allowance to the trained imams and appoint them in mass-education programme, according to the government decision.

AGRI-VARSITY

BAUCSU takes over office

Aug 30 : On behalf of the newly elected executive council of Bangladesh Agricultural University Central Students' Union (BAUCSU), its Vice-President M Saiduzzaman Kamal and General Secretary M Shahadat Hossain Chanchal formally took over the office of BAUCSU in a simple ceremony held at the Vice-Chancellor's office-chamber on August 24.

The ceremony was presided over by Prof. M Ashraf Ali Khan, Vice-Chancellor of BAU and President of BAUCSU. The function was attended by the newly-elected office-bearers of BAUCSU, all Deans, Provosts, Students' Affairs Advisor, Proctor, Coordinator of CASR, all members of Election Commission, Registrar, Treasurer and other related officers and presidents and general secretaries of Teachers' Association, Officers' Association, Employees' Association and Employees' Parishad of BAU. The Deputy Registrar (Academic) Shahid Dad Khan conducted the ceremony.

KISHOREGANJ

Freshers' reception held

From Our Correspondent

Aug 30 : A fresher's reception was accorded to the new students of Kuliarchar Degree College under the auspices of Kuliarchar thana unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League (M-I) in the premises of the college recently.

Presided over by M A Hannan, the function was attended by Md Zillur Rahman, president member of Bangladesh Awami League and Syed Aahmed, a central leader of the party as chief guest and special guest respectively.

Among others Pankaj Nath, Syed Md. Musa, Ajoy Kar Khokan, Syed Ashfaqur Islam Titu, Jahangir Alam, Zahir Rayhan, Maniruzzaman Manir, Murshiduddin addressed the function.

Later a colourful cultural function was arranged which was participated by prominent radio and TV artists.



GAIBANDHA : Erosion going on at Rasulpur of the district where a counter embankment is being hit by surging water. — Star photo

Aman cultivation fails to achieve target this year

From Our Correspondent

BOGRA, Aug 31 : Target of transplanted aman paddy cultivation in the northern districts has not been achieved this year due to unprecedented drought.

The cultivation target of aman paddy in the 16 districts of northern region during the current season was fixed at 39 lakh acres of land but only 32 lakh acres have been brought under the cultivation.

Though it is rainy season, there has not been sufficient rainfall in the region this year. It rains here with an interval of about 10 to 15 days and, as a result, 60 per cent of standing aman paddy is about to be damaged.

According to the local meteorological office the total rainfall was recorded 340 mm during the same period of the last year while this year up to August 20 total rainfall was recorded only 79 mm. This is also the case with other districts in this area.

Area-wise cultivation target of aman paddy during the current season was fixed at and brought under cultivation was as follows :

In Bogra target was fixed at 3,48,270 acres of land and 2,81,463 acres have been brought under cultivation.

In Sirajganj target was fixed at 75,335 acres and 56,809

acres have been brought under cultivation. In Rajshahi target was 1,72,900 acres and cultivated on 15,880 acres, in Kurigram target 2,87,073 acres, cultivated on 19,765 acres, in Naogaon target was 450,080 acres and cultivated on 349,000 acres, in Lalmonirhat target was 175,370 acres and cultivated on 156,660 acres, in Chapainawabganj target was 124,009 acres and cultivated on 90,724 acres, in Panchagarh target was 270,000 acres and cultivated on 163,725 acres, in Thakurgaon target was 231,288 acres and cultivated on 187,000 acres, in Rangpur target was 335,920 acres and cultivated on 331,060 acres, in Nilphamari target was 255,000 acres and cultivated on 243,000 acres, in Dinajpur target was 533,520 acres and cultivated on 466,830 acres, in Gaibandha target was 296,400 acres and cultivated on 223,065 acres, in Jyapurhat target was 172,000 acres and cultivated on 160,000 acres, in Pabna target was 86,450 acres and cultivated on 61,750 acres and in Natore target was 51,870 acres and cultivated on 45,903 acres.

The agriculture of the districts largely depends on the

irrigation and it is being hampered to a great extent due to many problems including fall of ground water level, mechanical trouble of irrigation pumps and shortage and high price of fuel.

There are 47 thousand shallow, deep tubewell and lowlift pumps in the region out of which 40 per cent of the pump machines remain inoperative due to shortage of spare parts and fuel. Besides, power based irrigation pumps are remain idle due to erratic power supply.

Aman cultivation in Sylhet

Our correspondent from Sylhet says : A massive programme has been taken up in all the four districts of greater Sylhet region during the current season for cultivating transplanted aman on 3,17,470 hectares of land.

The districts are, Sunamganj, Habiganj, Moulvibazar and Sylhet.

According to an official source, of the total area, 21,000 hectares have been brought under high yielding varieties and 20,000 hectares of local varieties.

In Sunamganj, 43,000

hectares of high yielding varieties and 15,000 hectares of local varieties have been brought under cultivation, in Habiganj, 75,470 hectares of high yielding varieties, and 30,000 hectares of local varieties, in Moulvibazar 42,000 hectares of high yielding varieties and 71,000 hectares of local varieties.

The total target of paddy production had been fixed at 6,59,502 metric tonnes in these districts.

Of this, 4,71,822 metric tonnes would be from the high yielding varieties and 1,87,680 metric tonnes from the local varieties of transplanted aman, the source said.

As many as 390 demonstration plots have been set up in the districts during the season, the source added.

A total amount of Taka one crore 97 lakh has also been earmarked for distribution among the cultivators as short-term loan. Of this amount, Taka 47 lakh will be distributed in Habiganj, Taka 47 lakh in Sunamganj, Taka 57 lakh in Moulvibazar and Taka 46 lakh will be distributed in Sylhet district.

Different measures are being taken to make the programme a success, the source said.

UNB from Barisal adds : A massive scheme has been taken up to bring 6.88 hectares of land under aman cultivation in 11 southern districts during this season.

According to official sources, of the total land, 72,000 hectares will be brought under high yielding variety and the rest under local variety.

The districts are : Barisal, Patuakhali, Bhola, Jhalakathi, Pirojpur, Barguna, Madaripur, Faridpur, Gopalganj, Rajbari and Shariatpur.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation has distributed seeds, fertilisers, insecticides and other necessary inputs among the farmers at fair prices to make the scheme a success.

It is expected that with the successful implementation of the scheme about 10 lakh metric tons of aman paddy will be produced during the season.

Tk 1.42 lakh distributed among distressed people

MAJDI COURT, Aug 31 :

District Social Welfare Department here has distributed interest free loan of Taka 1.42 lakh among 101 distressed people of village east and west Muhuduri of Sadar thana, reports UNB.

A total of 41 people were given Taka 2000 each and another 60 people Taka 1000 each as investment support for self-employed income generating projects.

A function was arranged by the Social Welfare Department on the occasion. Former Unit Commander of Noakhali unit of Bangladesh MuktiJoddah Sangsad Fazul Haq Badal presided.

Mohammad Sahjahan MP was present as chief guest and distributed loans among the distressed.

Later he planted saplings in the area.

High officials and local elite attended the function.

Self-employment projects on progress in dist

BARISAL, Aug 31 : Youth Development Department so far disbursed a sum of Taka 2.92 lakh among 18 trained youth of the district under self-employment extension programme, reports BSS.

According to an official source, the loan is being used for pisciculture, poultry and livestock farming and other small trades.

Meanwhile, the department has realised Taka 1.14 lakh from the youths.

A total of 18 trained youths were employed in this district under the programme.

A UNB report says : Bangladesh Krishi Bank realised outstanding loan of Taka 38.40 crore from the farmers of 65 thanas of 11 southern districts during the fiscal 1991-92, official sources here said.

The districts under Barisal Zone are : Barisal, Bhola, Patuakhali, Jhalakathi, Barguna, Faridpur, Madaripur, Sariatpur, Rajbari, Pirojpur and Gopalganj.

According to official sources, out of Taka 65 crore outstanding loan, the bank has realised the amount during the period which is only 59 per cent.

The bank realised Taka 3.93 crore from Barisal, Taka 3.11 crore from Bhola, Taka 3.86 crore from Pirojpur, Taka 1.50 crore from Jhalakathi, Taka 3.71 crore from Patuakhali, Taka 2.27 crore from Barguna, Taka 6.63 crore from Faridpur, Taka 4.00 crore from Gopalganj, Taka 3.62 crore from Madaripur, Taka 2.67 crore from Sariatpur and Taka 3.10 crore from Rajbari.

Betagi again threatened by river Bishkhali

BAROUNA, Aug 31 : The Betagi thana headquarters has again been threatened by the river Bishkhali while the damage caused on account of the previous erosion is yet to be repaired, reports UNB.

Local leaders alleged that despite repeated appeals to the authority no step has yet been taken for protection of the thana headquarters.

A scheme had been taken up by the Water Development Board for permanent protective measures in 1987 but the work was suspended for want of necessary fund.

Jaundice spreading fast in villages of Netrakona

NETRAKONA, Aug 31 : Jaundice has been spreading in the 10 thanas of the district for last one month, reports UNB.

The liver infection has already affected a large number of people in the Sadar thana.

Local physicians say there is no allopathic treatment for patients suffering from jaundice, which is driving the afflicted to the "kabiraj" for herbal treatment.

A kabiraj said that he was taking Taka 101 from each jaundice patient. The quacks are also said to be doing a brisk business.

Patients told UNB that the herbal treatment of jaundice was effective already curing hundreds of patients.

Netrakona Zila Parishad has taken up Taka two lakh afforestation programme under the ongoing tree planting campaign '92.

Secretary, Zila Parishad, Faruk Ahmed told UNB that the afforestation programme was being implemented across the district from the first week of July.

About 10,000 saplings of mehogan, shishu, raintree, chamber, coconut, baelnut and jackfruit have been planted on both sides of the 18 mile long Netrakona-Kendua road.

Another 1000 saplings would be planted at Khaliariri

Bazar, and the rest 4,000 saplings would be planted along other roads of the district.

A good number of saplings of different varieties would also be distributed among the students of different educational institutions of the district in order to encourage them to plant more trees and make them conscious of ecology.

Union polls of 4 colleges on Sept 16

COMILLA, Aug 31 : Elections to the student unions of all the four colleges in the town will be held simultaneously on September 16, reports UNB.

The decision to hold the elections was taken with a view to avert intrusion of other college students during the polls in a particular college.

The colleges are : Victoria Government College, Comilla Government College, Comilla Government Women's College and Comilla Aijit Guha College.

Meanwhile, hectic election campaigns are going on in the respective colleges.

Rallies, processions and gathering of various student organisations are being held every day in support of their proposed panels.

Unauthorised VCR shows rampant in Dinajpur

From Our Correspondent

DINAJPUR, Aug 31 : Unauthorised VCR shows have become rampant in different parts of the district.

It is learnt that mini cinema halls have been set up in different thanas including Parbatipur, Phulbari, Chiribandara, Birganj and Ghoraghat. Influential and organised quarters are involved in such illegal practices.

It is informed that obscene films are being exhibited on VCR every night which is degrading the moral values of young generation. The organisers of the VCR shows even display obscene posters and leaflets in the open places to draw attention of the customers.

In Parbatipur thana, a godown and a private house at Puratan Bazar are being used as mini cinema halls. In Phulbari thana, a hall room for this purpose can accommodate about five hundred visitors at a time.

This unauthorised business in Dinajpur is going on unabated and no steps have been taken as yet to stop the illegal business.

Another report adds : Water logging has been causing immense sufferings to the people of Khansama thana of the district. A total of 2,000 acres of land in Khansama thana is still under water. People of this area have been living on the machans.

Agriculture is the main source of livelihood in Khansama. Due to water logging, the farmers have been rendered jobless and facing hardships. The government and some NGOs have started relief operations here but these are also inadequate.

During the last floods more than 1,000 kutcha houses of Khansama thana collapsed by the wave of the Atrai river. The affected people have been living on high lands, flood control embankment. Some are passing their days under open sky.

The affected people have urged the government to take massive rehabilitation programme immediately.

3 young housewives, old woman commit suicide

From Our Correspondent

CHUADANGA, Aug 31 : Three young housewives and an old woman have committed suicide in different areas of the district between August 20 and 22 last by taking poison.

It is learnt that one Elefa Khatun (27) of village Alokda under Chuadanga Sadar thana committed suicide on August 20 last by taking poison. She was the mother of three children.

Another young woman, Jahanara (20), wife of one Meher Ali of village Goal Bari under Alamdanga thana of the district committed suicide by taking poison on August 21 last.

Another young woman Rahela Khatun, aged about 18,

wife of one Aminul Islam of village Boalia under Sadar thana committed suicide at her residence on August 22 last by taking poison. All the three young housewives committed suicide following family feud.

Besides, a seventy-year-old woman Aysha Khatun of village Padmabila under Sadar thana also committed suicide at her residence on August 22 last by taking poison as she had colic pain.

A Jatra named 'Anushandhan' on social issues was staged here at the local Kederjany Para new bazar area on August 26 last.



NATORE : A K M Fazlul Karim, District Judge speaking at a workshop held at the local Islamic Foundation auditorium recently. — Star photo