

District roundup

FARIDPUR

Anniversary of death observed

Sept 6: The second anniversary of death of Dr Mohammad Zahed, a local social worker, physician and founder-president of Faridpur Dr Zahed Shishu Hospital was observed here recently, reports BSS.

In this connection Dr Zahed Smriti Sangsad in collaboration with Faridpur Lions Club chalked out an elaborate programme. The programme included Quran Khawani, milad mahfil, blood donation programme and discussion meeting to the life and works of late Dr Zahed.

Speakers at the discussion meeting urged upon all to contribute their mite for the welfare and development of the shishu hospital, an institution founded by late Dr Zahed.

K M Nurul Huda, Deputy Commissioner of Faridpur was the chief guest in the discussion meeting. It was addressed, among others, by SM Shahjahan, ADC (Gen), Press Club President Liaquat Hossain, Professor M A Samad, Ferozer Rahman, Dr Nani Gopal Saha.

The meeting was presided over by Shishu Hospital committee president Abul Bashar Mia.

GOPALGANJ

Two commit suicide

From Our Correspondent

Sept 6: Two persons committed suicide by taking poison in the district recently.

It is learnt that one Gurusada Mondal of village Hatbaria under Gopalganj Sadar thana had committed suicide by taking poison.

Another Haran Chandra Roy of village Karargati under Sadar thana also committed suicide by taking poison.

The cause of the suicides could not be ascertained.

Separate UD cases have been registered with police in this connection.

SIRAJGANJ

167 held in August operation

From Our Correspondent

Sept 6: Police of Sirajganj Sadar, Raiganj, Tarash and Belkuchi have arrested 167 alleged masts and other criminals wanted in connection with different cases during Operation August '92.

In Sirajganj Sadar police arrested 90 persons, in Raiganj 32 persons, in Tarash 30 persons and in Belkuchi police arrested 15 persons.

Besides on August 27 night, Sadar police, acting on secret information, recovered one SBBL gun, two round cartridges and 15 rounds rifle bullets from a bush near Khokshabari on Sirajganj-Kazipur highway.

KISHOREGANJ

Valuables looted

From Our Correspondent

Sept. 6: A daring dacoity was committed at the residence of one Abdus Sobhan of village Jashodal Muslimpara in Kishoreganj Sadar thana recently.

A total of 8/10 dacoits armed with deadly weapons attacked the house of Abdus Sobhan at dead of night and the miscreants snatched away valuable goods and cash money including deeds worth about Taka 8000 from the inmates of the house.

Four persons including house owner were injured by dacoits. No case was recorded with Kishoreganj Police Station in this connection, house owner and local chairman informed.

CHITTAGONG

Heroin worth Tk one crore seized

Sept 6: A special squad of the Department of Narcotics Control seized one kilogram of heroin worth about Taka one crore from the possession of two persons at Badamtali, Agrabad here recently, reports BSS.

According to a press release of the department, the squad body searched one Shawpon Kumar Chakma and one Jahangir Azad while they were travelling by a rickshaw and found the heroin in a sack covered with polythene.

After preliminary investigation the quality of the heroin was found standard, the press release further said.

GAIBANDHA

2 killed in road mishap

From Our Correspondent

Sept 6: Two persons were killed and three others were injured in a truck accident on Friday afternoon at Kalitola under Gabindaganj thana.

Abdur Rashid (35) and Rabu Barman (40) died on the spot when the truck carrying five persons including them and a number of goats fell down in a ditch beside the road.

The accident also left three other passengers injured and four goats dead.

The driver managed to escape following the accident.

NETRAKONA

Noted politician dead

Sept 6: A reputed Islamic thinker and a former Member of National Assembly (MNA) of the then Pakistan and Principal of Netrakona Miftahulul Madrasa Moulana Monjurul Haq died of old age complications at his residence here on Thursday. He was 90, reports BSS.

He left behind his wife, four sons and a host of relatives and well wishers to mourn his death.

The namaj-e-janaja of the deceased was held at the local Eidgah maidan. Government officials, political leaders, local elites, journalists and thousands of devotees attended the janaja.

TANGAIL

Three houses gutted

Sept 6: Three houses in Paradisepara under Tangail town were gutted in a fire on September 2, reports BSS.

The fire was originated from gas leakage. The fire-brigade rushed to the spot and brought the fire under control.

The roadside electric line was also burnt, electricity of the town was, however, restored after three hours.

KUSHIA

Baro Sharif Darbar to observe Miladunnabi

From A Correspondent

Sept 6: The Baro Sharif Darbar, Courtpara, Kushia has chalked out elaborate programmes to observe the Eid-E-Miladunnabi on September 10 in a befitting manner, says a Press release.

The programmes include khash mahfil, Ijrat of Rouja Mubarak, hoisting of flag, Quran Khwani, ahm mahfil and discussion meeting on the life and works of Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (SM)

The khash mahfil on the occasion will begin at 3.30 am, Ijrat of Rouja Mubarak after the jamat of Fazar prayer, flag hoisting at 6 am. Quran Khwani after Johr prayer and discussion meeting will be being after Eaar prayer.

Devotees have been requested to take part in the different functions of the darbar sharif to make the occasion successful.

MANIKGANJ

Police seize Indian medicines

Sept 6: River traffic police have seized Indian medicines worth about Taka 5,000 and arrested a man in this connection from a night coach at Archa ferry ghat, reports UNB.

Acting on tip, a team of river police raided the Dhaka-bound coach from Khulna and arrested Golam Sarwar with 125 bottles of Indian phensidyl syrup.

A case has been filed with the Shiblalaya police.

MAGURA

Dacoits decamp with goods worth Tk 1.10 lakh

Sept 6: Dacoits armed with sophisticated weapons stormed two houses at Bishnupur village in Sadar thana and decamped with valuables worth about Taka 1.10 lakh on August 26, reports UNB.

According to the villagers, the bandit swooped on the houses of Badal Kumar Saha and Joydeb Datta and looted cash, gold ornaments, clothes and other household articles worth about Taka 60,000 and Taka 50,000 respectively at gun point.



GOPALGANJ: Awami League Chief and Leader of the Opposition, Sheikh Hasina planting a sapling at local Mohila College premises on August 27. — Star photo

Diarrhoea kills 50, attacks 2000 in Chandpur

From Our Correspondent

CHANDPUR, Sept 6: Diarrhoea has so far claimed about 50 lives in different thanas of the district during the last month.

About two thousand people were attacked by the diarrhoea. The badly affected areas are: Haziganj, Chandpur, Hamchar and Kachua.

In order to combat the disease, about fifty-six medical teams have been working in the affected areas and requisite quantity of anti-diarrhoeal medicines have been supplied to the affected areas.

It is informed that every day a large number of diarrhoea patients are coming to the Health Complex but they are going back without treatment for want of medicines. But the supply of oral saline is still inadequate.

Scarcity of drinking water, adulterated food stuff and continuous draught were attributed to the out break of diseases.

The 3rd installation ceremony of Chandpur Central Rotary Club held recently at local Rotary Bhaban.

Presided over by Sheikh Habibur Rahman, the meeting was addressed among others by AKM Shaiful Islam, Dr. Noorur Rahman, Quamruzzaman Chowdhury, Shafiquddin Ahmed, Md Yakub Ali, Abul Kashem Ferdous, Dr. Abdur Rashid, LK Siddiq MP, District Governor attended the function as chief guest.

The new executive committee of Chandpur Central Rotary Club were elected unanimously at the meeting.

AKM Shaiful Islam and Ajit Shah have been elected President and Secretary of the club respectively.

Other members of the club are as follows: Vice-Presidents: Jahangir Alam Khan and Ah-sanullah Akhand, treasurer MA Quader, Joint Secretaries Dr Golam Mahub and Babul Karmaker, Director, Club Service Fani Bhusan Chanda, Director, Vocational Service Kamal Poddar, Director, Community Service Mizanur Rahman Khan, Director, International Service Monir Hossain Babul.

Plan to bring 1500 acres under cotton cultivation in dist

From Our Correspondent

DINAJPUR Sept 6: The Bangladesh Cotton Development Board (BCDB) has undertaken a massive programme to bring about 1,500 acres of land under cotton cultivation in Btoli, Birganj, Sadar and Ghoraghat thanas under the district during the current season.

The cotton cultivation which has already been started in the district will be continued till September 15.

The target of cotton cultivation in the year 1990-91 in the district was fixed at 1,400 acres of land, of which only 200 acres were brought under cultivation. Natural calamities including severe cold hindered the cotton cultivation last year.

An official source said that 10 to 15 maunds of cotton may be produced on an acre of land.

The present price of one maund of cotton is Taka 675. Taka 10,000 to Taka 11,000 can be earned from an acre of land within a period of six months while the production cost is Taka 3,000 to Taka 3,500.

The old variety seed DL-6 and BAC-7 Rupali, Joidbpur, imported from America in 1977 are suitable for cultivation in these areas.

At present, about 1,500 farmer have been listed to cultivate cotton in the district. A total of 20 demonstration plots have been prepared, the source said.

Power supply irregular

SATKHIRA, Sept 6: Frequent power failure and load shedding in the town and its adjoining thanas continue to disrupt business activities in the town, causing inconveniences to the city dwellers, reports UNB.

Local people alleged that the power disruption mainly occurred soon after sunset affecting study and creating opportunities for criminal and anti-social activities.

Production in small factories, workshop and shopping in the town and thana level bazars are also seriously affected.

And whenever power supply is available, voltage is so low that household electronics are damaged, some consumers alleged.

Local people have urged the authorities to take immediate steps to solve power problems in the interest of smooth production in mills and factories.

Most of the farmers came from the Golam Mohammad Barrage of Pakistan. Bangladesh and the Pakistan government gave shelter in these areas providing land, irrigation facilities, seed, fertilizers and cash for cotton cultivation.

The Cotton Development Board arranged loan from Bangladesh Krishi Bank. But the settlers, who neither took care of the crop nor did they sink shallow tubewells for irrigation. They had sown cotton only for getting loan which was spent for other purpose.

The Bangladesh Krishi Bank, Ranisankal Branch, disbursed loan of Taka 4,15,500 for purchasing draft animals, Taka 1,03,425 for implementation and Taka 90,425 as production loan among 216 cotton farmers.

Besides, 21 shallow tubewells were also distributed for irrigation which they sold out. At present out of 216 cotton growers, there is none in this profession. Their whereabouts are, not known. The loan is not paid and the amount has swelled to about Taka 22 lakhs.

The lands which were mortgaged have been grabbed by the influential persons.



KUSHIA: The 13 Battalion of the Bangladesh Rifles seized huge quantity of smuggled goods recently. The goods include saree, salt, clothes and other materials

Notes from Rangpur

From Our Correspondent

RANGPUR, Sept 6: Police has arrested 447 persons on various charges during the August '92 crack-down here recently.

One 303 rifle, a hijacked bicycle and an electricity driven generator were recovered by the police in the same period.

Of the total 447 persons, 133 have got warrants of arrest, 82 involved in different offences, 52 accused of various crimes, 22 are musalmen, one on illegal toll collection, 150 under section 54, 7 are absconding convicts who have been arrested by the police and sent to the court for trial.

Use of wine up

The Pirgonj thana village markets have been flooded with the locally manufactured wine.

According to the information, some influential persons of Bhendabari Bandar actively involved in manufacturing and marketing the wine in large scale.

The use of wine has increased the anti-social activities, different crimes, extortions and disturbances in the hotels, restaurants and other public places have increased in the recent days.

The law enforcing agencies have reportedly avoiding these criminals during their current drive against crimes, it is complained.

School boy electrocuted

One Enamul Haque, a student of class eight of Radha-Krishnapur under Kotwali thana was electrocuted recently.

According to the information, the ill-fated boy suddenly came in contact with a live electric wire and died on the spot.

Another Hridoy Mohanta (20) of Sundarganj was electrocuted recently.

The tragic incident occurred when he touched an electrified tin-shed of his sweetmeat shop. In a seriously injured condition, he was admitted to the Sundarganj hospital where he died.

Young girl commits suicide

One Tansinara Begum (15) of Chongmari under Mithapukur thana committed suicide by hanging herself recently.

There was a quarrel between the mother and the victim on the day of incident. The victim was refused of new dress by her mother due to poverty and ultimately the victim committed suicide by hanging.

Police recover 6 stolen cows

The Badarganj thana police recovered 26 stolen cows from the house of an Union Parishad member recently.

Acting upon a secret information, police raided the house of one Mohsen Ali, a member of Gopinathpur Union Parishad and recovered those stolen cows. The police also arrested him.

There are allegations that the arrested Union Parishad member was involved in patronising the cattlelifters of the area. The recovered cattle were concealed in his house with the help of the pet-cattlelifters. This ill-practices was alleged to have been continuing for a long time to collect ransom from the owners.

The police is looking for other members of the gang, it is gathered.

Health complex beset with problems

The Fulchari Health Complex is running without doctors and other staff for a long time.

According to information, the post of two medical officers, one dental surgeon, one sanitary inspector, one dental technician, four staff nurses, one junior mechanics, one godown keeper, nine health assistants, one radiographer and one sweeper have been lying vacant for the past few years.

At present two nurses, one health assistant and some other menials are practically running the functions of the complex.

One gets life-term for murder

HABIGANJ, Sept 6: Three people have been convicted to different terms by the District and Sessions Judge here in a murder case, reports UNB.

Anwar Ali has been sentenced to life-term rigorous imprisonment and fined Taka 5,000 and Kasam Ali and Samir Ali to three years RI fined Taka 3,000 each.

They were found guilty in the murder of Rhuil Amrin of Anatabad village in Chunarughat thana in September, 1991 as a sequel to a dispute over construction of a latrine.

Five killed in separate incidents in Feni

FENI, Sept 6: Five people were killed in separate incidents in the district over the last one week, police said here on Saturday, reports UNB.

Ankurar Nessa (40) of Purba village in Sonagazi thana was allegedly killed by her son on August 28. Family feud was said to be the reason behind the murder.

A young man named Siraj (25) was killed by a gang of miscreants at Pathannagar in Chhagalnaha thana. Family sources said Siraj was called out from his residence by the miscreants on August 29.

Ferdous Alam (15), a school student of Mitzpanua of the same thana, was killed in a road accident near Feni by-pass road on August 29. The mishap occurred when he was run over by a speeding bus.

Chhagalnaha police also recovered an unidentified body from Muhuri river on August 25. Acting on tip, police

rushed to the spot and recovered the body.

A minor girl was killed in a road mishap at Feni by-pass road near Chelonia Bazar of Sadar thana on Tuesday.

Witnesses said Aleya Begum (6) of Dolia village in Sadar while crossing the road was crushed under the wheels of the speeding truck.

The driver managed to escape with the vehicle. The body was sent to morgue for autopsy and a case has been lodged with the local police.

Local people alleged that accidents on Feni by-pass road are increasing alarmingly in recent days. Rash driving and overloading are said to be the main reasons behind the frequent road mishaps.

They also alleged that most of the time the drivers manage to escape with their vehicle due to police inaction.

Raw jute being sold at low prices in markets

LALMONIRHAT, Sept 6: Raw jute is being sold at low prices in the markets here causing anxiety to the growers, reports UNB.

Growers said a maund of jute is now being sold in the market between at Taka 120 and Taka 200 only.

Official sources said, due to bumper production, the production target is likely to be exceeded in the district this season. The target was fixed at 2.23 lakh maunds. But it is expected that 2.50 lakh maunds of jute will be produced in the district.

The Bangladesh Jute Corporation has not yet paid the outstanding amount of Taka 22 lakh to the traders and growers. As a result, 194 traders out of 264 did not renew their licences.

The BJC has shut down its six purchase centres at Teesta Aditmari, Kakina, Bhotmari Hatibandha and Patgram. Only one centre remained open at the district headquarters which has not yet started purchasing jute though 40 per cent of the production have come in the market.

The BJMC has no purchase centre in the district.

The leaders of the district urged the authorities to open jute purchase centres in the district so that the growers can get fair price of their produce.

Police have arrested the leader of an organised gang of bicycle thieves from the town.

Sekandar Ali (22) was picked up from Alokrapa crossing recently and according to his confession, police recovered 4 cycles kept hidden under water in a pond.

Smuggled goods worth Tk 2.24 cr seized

BRAHMANBARIA, Sept 6: Bangladesh Rifles seized smuggled goods worth over Taka 2.24 crore and arrested 16 people from different places of Akhaura and Balia border areas from January to July this year, reports UNB.

According to official sources, contraband goods worth about Taka 1.21 crore were seized while being coming into the country and goods worth about Taka 2.99 lakh were recovered while being smuggled out to India.

The Indian goods included sarees, spare parts, sugar, electrical materials, match box, razor blade and 'spices while local goods included hilsha fish, chilli, tortoise and prawn, the sources added.

Nine cases were lodged with the different police stations.

A report from Magura says: Two people have been arrested for possessing a huge quantity of ganja plants in the town.

Acting on tip, narcotics officials raided a house at Dompura area recently and seized a rickshaw-van loaded with ganja plants from the house. The house owner was arrested.

They raided another house at Nujanduali village, seized a similar rickshaw-van loaded with ganja plants and arrested the house owner.

Police said arrested two were allegedly involved in growing ganja and trading on the contraband goods.

Two separate cases have been filed with the police.

Another report from Brahmanbaria adds: At least 50 people were arrested and huge quantity of drugs and its manufacturing materials were recovered here during last one year.

Attack on AL office slated

MADARIPUR, Sept 6: District Awami League held a protest meeting in the town Friday protesting the attack on AL office and deterioration of law and order situation, reports UNB.

The local Awami League office came under attack on August 30 by some unruly youths. AL blamed Jatayatbadi Chhatra Dal activists for the incident.

Presided over by local Awami League leader Advocate Keramat Ali, the meeting was addressed by Shahjahan Khan MP and others.

The speakers expressed grave concern over the deteriorating law and order situation in the country and blamed administration for failure in restoring peace in the country and as well as in the campuses after the installation of the much desired democratic government.

They also called upon the district administration to nab the unruly youths responsible for the attack of AL office.

Earlier, on September 3 Jatayatbadi Chhatra Dal in a meeting at local Shantingang Square condemned the shooting of its worker Boby (25) on August 30. It was presided over by JCD leader Nazrul Islam Litu.

Armed dacoits loot goods worth Tk 7.50 lakh

SIRAJGANJ, Sept 6: Armed dacoits in separate raids looted goods worth about Taka 7.50 lakh from different houses during the last 48 hours, police sources here said, reports UNB.

At least seven people were injured, two of them seriously, when the dacoits attacked several houses in Tarash, Chohwali and Raiganj thanas on Friday night.

They looted goods and valuables worth about Taka 3.50 lakh from these houses and decamped with booty firing gunshots and exploding crackers.

The bandits attacked the house of Khokon Sarker and his brother of village Chandibodi and Iman AL's of the neighbouring village Polla on Friday night.

The robbers attacked the houses of Azhar Ali and his brother of village Bhatrapara in Raiganj thana of the district on the same night and decamped with valuables.

The dacoits also swooped on a passenger-boat in the mid Jamuna near village Sajibana in Chowhali thana on the same night and snatched away belongings and valuables worth about Taka 50,000.

Also, on Thursday, a gang of dacoits attacked four houses in Tarash and Raiganj thana and looted goods and valuables worth about Taka four lakh.

Cases were filed with the police.

Another report from Jessore adds: A group of people wearing police uniform Friday night took away goods worth Taka 10,000 from a house at village Abadkachua in Kotwali thana.