

District roundup

BARISAL

Plan to bring 1.38 lakh people under FP programme

Sept 28: Family Planning Department has taken up a comprehensive plan to bring 1,38,967 persons in 10 thanas of the district under its programme during the fiscal 1992-93, reports UNB.

This programme will be implemented with the help of medical college hospital, thana health complexes and union health centres of the thanas.

According to official sources, about 5,378 persons will be brought under sterilisation, 7,249 women under IUD, 31,637 women will be given injections and the rest under other devices.

KUSHTIA

Rotarians urged to work for rural poor people

Sept 28: Former Minister and District Governor of Rotary International District 3280 L K Siddiqi has asked Rotarians to take up specific projects for the benefit of poor and neglected rural people, reports UNB.

He was addressing the regular weekly meeting of Rotary Club of Kushtia West held at local hotel on September 10.

L K Siddiqi, member of parliament said every club should initiate programmes in selected villages for the villagers need dedicated service more than the urban people.

He said that Rotary Club had been established with the spirit of sacrifice which enabled the people connected with it to dedicate themselves to the cause of humanity.

Presided over by Rotarian President of Rotary Club of Kushtia West Rtn Shiraj-Ul-Islam, the meeting was also addressed by Rtn M Mashtur Rahman, former district governor.

BRAHMANBARIA

Court Employees' Welfare Trust formed

Sept 28: A new organisation named 'Brahmanbaria District Judge Court Employees Welfare Trust' was formed at Brahmanbaria recently according to a press release, reports BSS.

Fariduddin Bhuiyan was selected as convener of the organisation, while Rafiqul Islam Milki, Majibur Rahman and M Ruhul Amin became the joint-convenors of the 23-member executive committee, the press release said.

Ayub Ali and Mohammad Hosain were made general secretary and treasurer respectively of the committee.

RAJSHAHI

Course on seed technology concludes

Sept 28: A day-long training course on seed technology for private seed growers concluded at the BADC cold storage premises here on Saturday, reports BSS.

Additional Divisional Commissioner, Shaiful Islam was present at the concluding function as chief guest and distributed certificates among the participants.

A total of 25 private seed growers from different thanas of Rajshahi and Chapainawabganj district, participated in the training course.

The main objective of the training course was to impart training on quality seed processing and production and motivate the farmers in using the quality seeds for boosting production.

SIRAJGANJ

Boat passengers foil dacoity bid

Sept 28: Passengers of a mechanised boat foiled a dacoity bid in the Jamuna river near Kazipur-thana on Friday, reports UNB.

Witnesses said dacoits numbering about 15 armed with lethal weapons attacked the Betgarhat bound boat coming from Tekanighat with 25 passengers in the midst of the river but the passengers resisted them.

Boat owner, two passengers and eight dacoits were injured during the 30-minute fight.

The injured boat owner and passengers were admitted to Shovagacha health centre. The dacoits fled away by a boat.

JHENIDAH

Muktijoddah Unit Commander shot dead

Sept 28: A former Harina Kundu thana Muktijoddah Unit Commander was shot dead at village Ohourdah in Harina Kundu thana by miscreants recently, reports BSS.

Police said, Muktijoddah Leader Asfaruddin (47) was working in the village field, suddenly four assailants with firearms chased him. He took shelter in a house. The attackers broke open the door and shot him dead.

A case was filed with the Harian Kundu police.

LALMONIRHAT

Erosion leaves 5,000 families homeless

Sept 28: At least 5,000 families were rendered homeless due to the unabated erosion by the river Teesta in Mohishkhocha union of Aditmari thana of the district during the last few days, reports UNB.

About 2,000 families lost their houses only in the last three days.

The chairman of Mohishkhocha said six square kilometre area of the union were already devoured by the river and 21,000 people of the union affected the erosion.

A vast tract of crop land went under water and several educational institutions and mosques were also devoured by the erosion.

The homeless people were now passing their days under the open sky without any relief.

AGRI-VARSITY

Teachers donate one-day salary

Sept 28: Prof M Rafiqul Haque Bhuiyan, President of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) Teachers' Association handed over a cheque of Taka 86,742.90 as donation to Mahmooda Begum, widow of Late M Rezwanul Haque, former Associate Professor in the Department of Entomology of BAU at a simple function held at the TSC complex on September 21, says a press release.

In order to assist the family-member of the deceased, the fund was collected with the donation of one day salary of the BAU teachers. The function was attended by the General Secretary of BAU Teachers' Council, Prof M Nazrul Islam and other office-bearers of the association.

Another reports adds: A notification issued by the Controller of Examinations of BAU says that the B.Sc Ag Engg (Hons) Part II Supplementary Examination for the year 1989 and the B.Sc Ag Engg Part I Supplementary Examination for the year 1990 will begin from October 12.

The detailed schedule of both examinations will be circulated in due course.

PATUAKHALI

Homeopath college inaugurated

Sept 28: A homeopath college has been inaugurated here, reports UNB.

The inaugural function was presided over by Dharendra Nath Paul, Principal of the college. The District and Sessions Judge SM Abdus Samad attended the function as the chief guest while A K M Mahbul Alam ADC (Rev) attended as the special guest.

The chief guest formally opened the classes of the homeo college and discussed various aspects of homeo treatment.

The students held a Milad Mahfil after the opening function.

CHITTAGONG

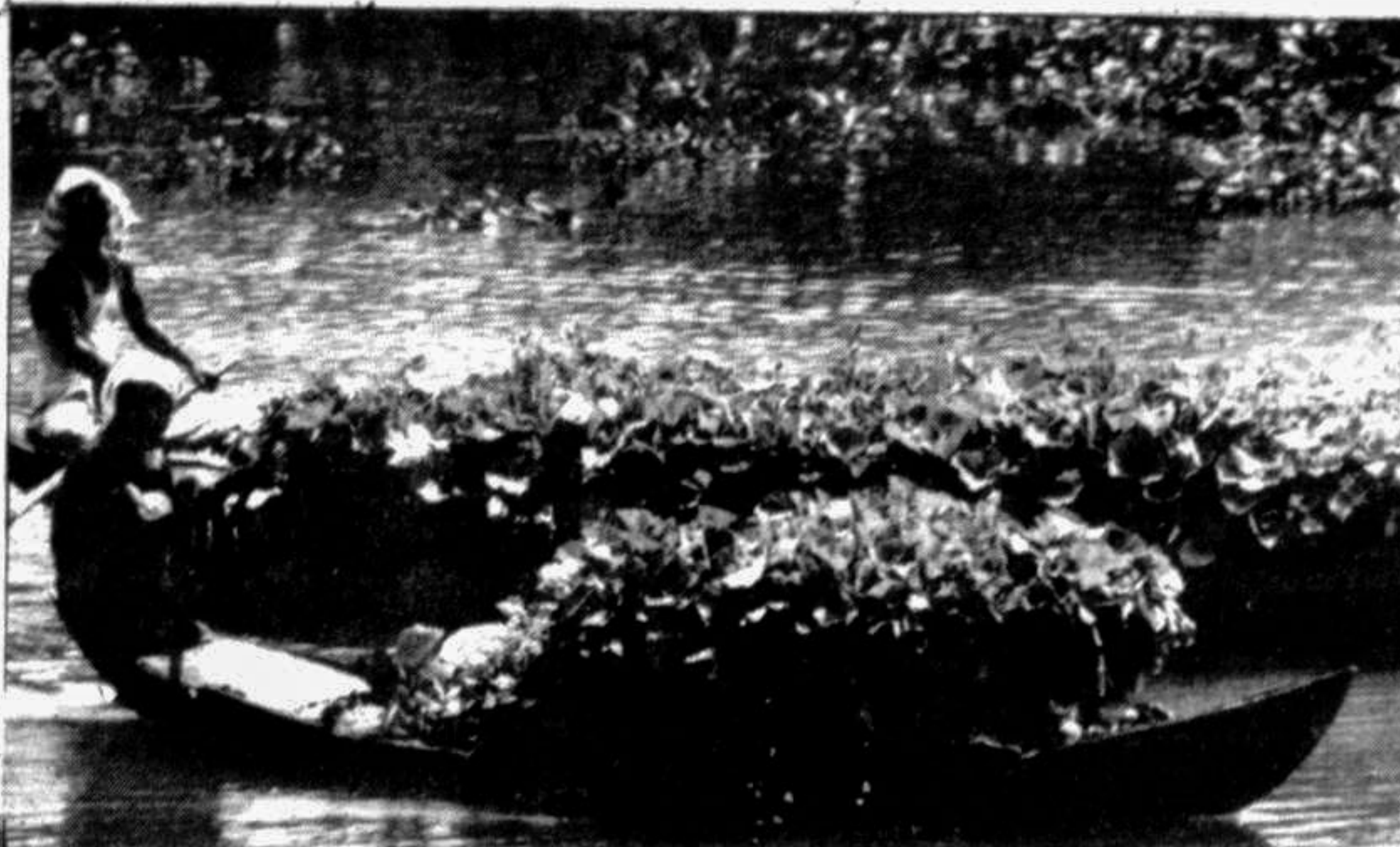
Labourer killed as rivals clash in Barobkunda

Sept 28: A labourer was killed and two others suffered wounds in a bomb attack by rivals in Barokunda industrial area Wednesday night, reports UNB.

Nurunnabi, fatally injured in the attack, succumbed to his injuries on way to Chittagong Medical College Hospital at 5 am today.

Mohiuddin and Soaid, who suffered burn injuries from petrol bomb, were given first aid. They came under the bomb attack while returning home at around 11 last night.

Police said the incident might be the outcome of rivalry between the Jahangir group of Awami League-backed Sramik League and the Didar group of pro-government Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal.



BOTTLE-GROUD SAPLINGS: Two farmers of Ujirpur thana under Barisal district are carrying the saplings to a market for sale. This is the proper time to plant these saplings.

— Star photo

Maintain peace on campus for timely completion of sessions'

CHANDPUR, Sept 28: State Minister for Establishment Nurul Huda said, maintaining congenial environment on the educational campuses was imperative for timely completion of academic sessions, reports UNB.

He was addressing a freshers' reception of the Chandpur Government College held at the college ground here on Saturday.

Presided over by the Principal of the college Matir Rahman, the meeting was also addressed, among others, by Prof Abdullah, MP, Alam Khan MP and convener of district BNP Mollah Siddique Rahman, says an official handout.

The State Minister said, terrorism should not form part of the normal life of youths as it can ruin them as well as the society. The government has enacted the anti-terrorism ordinance to root out terrorism, he added.

He called upon the students, teachers and guardians to assist the government in uprooting terrorism from the society.

Referring to the glorious role of the students' anti-autocratic movement, the State Minister said, the government

was trying hard to restore the glorious heritage of the students community.

A BSS report Comilla says: Works Minister Rafiqul Islam Mia said, the government attaches top priority to education and highest amount has been allocated for the sector in the budget in current fiscal year.

The Minister was addressing a gathering of teachers and students at Sreekal College. The Minister urged the students to put in their best efforts in studies so that they could become the worthy citizen of the country.

Turning to the law and order situation, the Minister said, the government is determined to make the society free from terrorism and anarchy.

The Minister also said, the anti-terrorism ordinance will not be used for political purposes rather, it will help curb criminal activities in the society.

Earlier, the Minister addressed a gathering of students and teachers at the Companygonj Badiul Alam College.

Another report Gazipur adds: State Minister for Reli-

gious Affairs Prof M A Mannan has said that the present government is keen to give incentive and necessary facilities to the talented students for building a better career for shouldering the future responsibilities of the nation.

He was addressing a reception on Saturday at Habibullah Maidan in Gazipur accorded to the students of Gazipur district who did excellent results in SSC examination-92. Two hundred students were awarded different prizes for their good performance in SSC examination.

The State Minister said, the students are the future asset of the nation and as such they should endeavour to build up their career by ensuring best use of their student life. The State Minister urged all to keep vigilant eyes against any terrorist activity on educational campus.

Pointing to the government's effort to raise the percentage of literacy, the State Minister said that the government of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia have launched mass literacy programme and compulsory primary education to achieve that goal.

Help make national EPI a success

JESSORE, Sept 28: Present democratic government is committed to protect basic right of children providing better health and other facilities, reports BSS.

This was stated by Tariqul Islam, Minister for Social Welfare and Women Affairs while inaugurating the National EPI Week at a rally organised jointly by district Health Department, different non-government voluntary organisations, social, cultural and educational institutions Saturday at Town Hall maidan. Bhuiya Rafiuddin Ahmed, Deputy Commissioner, Jessore presided over the function.

The Minister said Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia had taken decision to set up rehabilitation centres in four divisional towns and Narayan-ganj for the destitute children.

He pointed out that children of our country were most neglected in comparison with other countries. Presently child mortality rate in our

country was one hundred and ten per one thousand, he added and said it was mainly due to malnutrition, diarrhoea and six common diseases to which children of our country were vulnerable.

He called upon non-government, voluntary organisations to make concerted efforts to raise acceptance rate of immunisation to ninety per cent by their ear 1993.

Later Tariqul Islam led a big rally carrying banners, festoons and placards of EPI and marched through main roads of Jessore. The participants of the rally include officials, elite of the town, journalists, social workers, volunteers, teachers and large number of children.

A UNB report from Faridpur says: The first national immunisation week was launched here Saturday, as part of a countrywide drive, with a call to make all out efforts for the success of government's EPI programme.

In this connection, a colourful rally was organised by the NGOs, students and different socio-cultural organisations carrying placards, festoons and leaflets. Later, a procession was brought out at the town parading main thoroughfares and chanting various slogans.

Nurul Huda, Deputy Commissioner and Kazi Syed Ahamed, Civil Surgeon also addressed the rally. They stressed the need for increased motivational drive to bring the children under the Expanded Immunisation Programme in large numbers.

"Immunisation is essential to protect the children from six killer diseases — polio, tetanus, tuberculosis, measles, whooping cough and diphtheria," the DC said.

According to official sources, about 30,000 children had been brought under the immunisation programme in the district during the last six months.

Loadshedding hampering irrigation, production in mills, factories

DINAJPUR, Sept 28: Frequent load-shedding have been causing immense loss to the businessmen and residents of 16 northern districts concerned circles said here, reports UNB.

Interruptions and fluctuations have rendered about 100 transformers worth about Taka 2 crore inoperative, in the areas comprising greater Rajshahi, Bogra and Dinajpur districts, they alleged.

Sources said only half of the requirement of this zone, 300MW were being supplied at peak period which was hampering irrigation, production in the mills and factories and

business activities.

They said the government stood to incur a huge loss in revenue if the load-shedding continued longer.

Mushroom growth of welding shops along the busy roads and in the residential areas have been creating problems for the town dwellers.

Over 160 welding shops have been set up along the Station Road, Kacharai Road, west of Lily Cinema Hall, Gashipara Road, Kalitala Road, Suhitari Road of the town hampering movement of vehicles and pedestrians.

High power gas burners used in these workshops have

been damaging eye-sights of passers-by, particularly school going children.

Wastes and garbages of these welding shops have been polluting the environment.

Local elite, who complained of irregularities, unlawful and unhygienic activities, have demanded stern action by the authorities.

The other two were detained. All the three were charged under sections 307 and 326 of the penal code.

According to the complaint the three young men armed with deadly weapons attempted to kill the News Editor on August 3.



BOGRA: Dr Mahfuzul Huque, Principal, Bogra Medical College speaking at the inaugural session of a 3-day-long training programme on breast-feeding held here, recently. The course was organised in cooperation with the UNICEF.

— Star photo

Notes from Chittagong

CHITTAGONG, Sept 28: Chittagong City branch of Islami Chhatra Shibir Saturday handed over a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner here demanding opening of Chittagong Medical College and an impartial inquiry into the death of Mahbub, a medical student, few days back, a Shibir Press release said, reports BSS.

Branch leaders Muhammad Shahjahan, Rezaul Karim, Ayub Haider and Gulam Faruk handed over the memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner at the latter's court building office, the Press release added.

Stolen autorickshaw, goods recovered

Paharati police in two separate raids recovered stolen goods and an autorickshaw worth Taka two and a half lakh from two places of the police station on Friday, a police Press release said on Saturday.

Four persons were arrested in this connection.

The police recovered stolen electronic goods and the autorickshaw along with two electric motors from a house at Halishahar.

Police asked to earn confidence of people

The Inspector General of Police (IGP), M A S M Shahjahan, asked the police officers to deal with the criminals with a strong hand in order to ensure peace and discipline in the society on Saturday.

He also asked them to discharge their responsibilities with honesty and dedication and refrain from harassing innocent people while rounding up criminals and anti-social elements.

The IGP while talking to district and the Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) officers at Dampara police auditorium here said, police would have to earn the confidence of the people that they are meant for checking crimes and maintaining peace and order in the society.

The CMP Commissioner, M Abdus Salam, Additional DIG, Chittagong Range, M Aminul Islam, among others, were present on the occasion.

Jute cotton workers hold rally

Speakers at a workers rally held at Hafiz Jute Mills (HJM) Labour Union ground here Saturday last called upon the government to announce decisions with jute and cotton mills workers.

The rally held under the auspices of Jatiya Sramik Federation (JSF), Chittagong branch was presided over by Kalam Sardar, HJM-CBA leader. Jatiya Sramik Federation President Abul Bashar, Labour Leaders Tipu Biswas, A T M Nizam Uddin, Nurul Islam, Joyanal Sardar and Sayedul Huq addressed the rally, a JSF press release said.

They said, jute and cotton mills workers were losing their patience because of unusual delay in announcing decisions of the workers wage commission.

Contraband cigarettes worth Tk 5 lakh seized

Chittagong police seized 500 mini-cartons of contraband cigarettes worth Taka five lakh from a car at Kalurghat here last night, police said.

On suspicion police ordered a private car which was proceeding towards Kalurghat to stop. But defying the police order the car ran away quickly and entered the FIDC Road at Kalurghat industrial area. The driver left the car leaving it at a dark place.

Police made a search on the private car and found the cigarettes.

Meanwhile, the detectives of Chittagong Metropolitan Police seized 205 pieces of contraband Indian sarves worth Taka one lakh from a Chittagong bound night coach at Jamal Khan here recently.

Police also recovered one light gun and two rounds of cartridges from a sack left by two persons near Cheragi Pahar of Jamal Khan.

Road needs early repair

BARGUNA, Sept 28: The 35-kilometre long Amtali-Patuakhali road has become unworthy of vehicular traffic causing great inconvenience to the people, local leaders alleged here, reports UNB.

The road is full of countless cracks and potholes and most of the culverts have gone down, they said.

The Amtali-Patuakhali road is one of the most important roads and is the only communication link between Patuakhali-Barisal and Dhaka.

Sounding a note of warning against serious accident any day, a local leader urged the government to allocate money for repairing the road urgently.

Five die of diarrhoea in Sherpur

SHERPUR, Sept 28: Diarrhoea claimed five lives including two children and attacked 300 during the last fortnight in the district, reports UNB.

The dead were identified as Zahura (20), Rahima (22) and Samedul (7) of Jhenaidah thana, Kulsum (3) of Sadar thana and Rani Begum (30) of Nokla thana.

Consumption of adulterated food and taking of impure water were said to be main reasons behind the outbreak of the diseases.

Local people said scarcity of oral saline packets and life saving drugs has been prevailing in the affected areas.

While contacted the Civil Surgeon's office denied the death report but admitted that some people have been affected by the diseases.

The affected people have urged the authorities to despatch medical teams in the affected areas to combat the spread of the diseases.

BKB branch opens

Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives Minister Barrister Abdus Salam Talukder inaugurated a Bangladesh Krishi Bank branch here which began its journey with a capital of Taka, 51,36,000.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister hoped that the opening of the branch of Krishi Bank at Batkumari would be useful in increasing agricultural output through distribution of agricultural loans to the farmers, according to an official handout.

Cow-dung fertilizer use declining day by day

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, Sept 28: The use of cow-dung as fertilizer is declining fast in Satkhira district causing loss to the productivity of land.

On the other hand, rampant use of chemical fertilizers has affected fertility of soil.

The affected thanas are Sadar, Kalaroa, Tala, Debhata, Kaliganj, Shyamnagar and Assasuni.

Agriculture Extension Department sources said, fertility of soil depends on its organic chemical and biological ingredients which are formed in cow-dung. There are three per cent of Nitrogen, three per cent of Phosphorus and six per cent of Potash in cow-dung. A ton of cow-dung can produce as much as 20 kg ingredients of chemical fertilizer. But owing to price hike and scarcity of firewood, farmers of the district have been using cow-dung as fuel instead of using the same as traditional fertilizer.

It is learnt that the country gets nearly 2.5 crore tons of cow-dung from the cattleheads annually. The large portion of cow-dung is being used as fuel and this trend is on.

Another report adds: The blacksmiths of the district have been facing manifold problems to continue their ancestral profession.

According to sources, inputs like firewood, coal, iron and chemicals have become expensive compelling them to give up their work.

Blacksmiths used to produce agricultural instruments like axes, daos etc. But due to fund shortage and absence of bank loan, they are unable to continue their profession.

A large number of blacksmiths in Sadar, Kalaroa, Tala, Debhata, Kaliganj, Shyamnagar and Assasuni thanas of the district have already given up their profession.



CHANDPUR: Artists are rendering songs at a cultural function organised on the occasion of 3rd installation ceremony of local Central Rotary Club recently.

— Star photo

Four killed in incidents

JHENIDAH, Sep. 28: Two children were killed and four other persons injured seriously in road accidents on Saturday in the district, police sources said, reports UNB.

The victim Jahangir (11), son of Mohammad Ali of Shamkur village in Moheshpur thana, while crossing the road was run over by a speeding motorcycle at Shamkur bazar.

He was immediately rushed to the Moheshpur Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.

Anu (10), daughter of Motleb Ali of Patibella village in Kaliganj thana, was knocked down by a Kaliganj bound bus

while she was crossing the road.

She was rushed to Kaliganj Hospital where she died. Police seized the bus but the driver managed to flee.

Three other persons were seriously injured in a bus accident on Jhenidah-Jessore Road near police line of the town.

Another child, Firoza was hit by a speeding bus at Vatal bazar in Shilokupa thana on Jhenidah-Kushtia Road. She was rushed to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital.

Separate case were filed with the police.

Rural poor patients are at quacks' mercy

From Our Correspondent

DINAJPUR, Sept 28: The number of quacks has increased in the 13 thanas of the district.

Quacks are fond in the villages of Chiribandarg, Birganj, Khansama, Bochanganj, Kaharol, Birol, Hakimpur, Nawabganj, Phulbari and all other thanas of the district.

It is gathered that many educated unemployed young men have taken up quackery in the rural areas. A few of them have basic training on health care. Poor people mainly landless and labourers who can hardly afford to manage the cost of treatment at the hospitals go to these quacks because they take normal fee.

A large number of graduates are also found among these quacks while HSC and SSC passed young boys have taken up quackery as profession on a large scale.

Some government health workers are also found practising this type of treatment in the rural areas throughout the district. The people who have been suffering from various diseases including diarrhoea go to the quacks for necessary treatment.

The number of quacks has been increasing mainly due to absence of medicare at health complexes set up at every thana headquarters and many union parishads.

A section of doctors and other staff of the hospitals realise gratification from the poor patients for providing them with prescription and medical treatment. Being harassed by them, the helpless poor patients go to the quacks instead of health complexes.

Patients are generally reluctant to go to the qualified doctors at the thana headquarters and district towns for bad communication. Moreover, the poor patients from rural areas cannot pay fees of doctors.

Wife injures husband

COMILLA, Sept 28: A husband was seriously injured by his wife following a family feud at Ujanmukhi village in Chaudhagram thana on Thursday, reports UNB.

Family sources said the victim Shukumar Chandra Das (32) was injured by multiple dao blows dealt by his wife Shadhana Bala Das (24).

When Sukumar was taking his meal following an altercation with his wife, Shadhana became furious and begun to deal dao blows on her husband.

The victim was rushed to Chaudhagram hospital immediately and later removed to district general hospital.