

District roundup

KUSHITIA

Course on cultivation ends

Nov 1: A two-day training for the farmers on cultivation of various oil seeds and pulses concluded at Daulatpur thana parishad auditorium on Wednesday, reports BSS.

Mozammel Huq, Deputy Director, Agriculture Extension Department inaugurated the training programme.

Sixty eight farmers including four women participated in the training.

Another message says: A day-long training for the farmers of Bheramara thana was held at the thana head quarters recently.

Thirty two farmers took part in the training.

TANGAIL

One to suffer life-term for murder

Nov 1: Saiful Islam Additional District Judge, Tangail Tuesday sentenced Azizul Haque and Abdul Bari to transportation for life on charge of murder, reports BSS.

The court found them guilty of murder of one September 15, 1989. The accused belong to village Pandua. The court also fined them Taka five hundred each in default to suffer fifteen days more in jail.

MEHERPUR

One electrocuted

Nov 1: One Md Lufar Rahman (30) of village Taranagar under Bagawan thana was electrocuted recently at his Village, reports BSS.

He was reported to have been taking illegal electric connection from a shop.

A case has been lodged in this connection.

PATUAKHALI

Shop Workers Welfare Samity formed

Nov 1: An organisation named Shop Workers Welfare Samity has been formed at a meeting here to protect the rights, and privileges of the workers as per the law of the land, reports UNL.

An eleven-member committee was formed at the meeting on Friday with Ashraf Ali Chowdhury in the chair.

Md Sikander Ali and Aminul Islam were elected as President and General Secretary of the samity.

The other elected members of the samity are: Vice President — Md Nurul Islam, Joint Secretary—Habibur Rahman, Treasurer—Jillur Rahman, Office Secretary — Ahsan Kabir, Publicity Secretary Tayeb Ali, Organising Secretary — Mujibur Rahman.

Amir Hossain, Shah Alam and Forkan Hossain were elected as members of the samity.

NAOGAON

Transport facilities for girl students demanded

Nov 1: Girl students and their guardians demanded transport facilities for students of girl's schools and colleges in the district headquarters, reports UNB.

There are five girls' high schools and one government women's college in the town, with more than 2,000 students attending these institutions regularly.

The girl students come to their respective educational institutions on foot crossing a number of busy roads and taking great risks.

Reckless driving of buses and trucks and innumerable rickshaws parked helter-skelter creating traffic jam keep the guardians in anxiety. Accidents happen but complaints go unheeded, they added.

Moreover, many girl students who walk to their respective institutions are often teased by unruly and wayward youngmen.

The guardians have urged the authorities to take measures to solve the transport problem in the town and its suburbs.

LALMANIRHAT

Three cells for increasing rly income formed

Nov 1: A total of three cells has been formed to take necessary measures for increasing the income of different sections of Lalmanirhat Railway Division, reports UNB.

The cells were formed at a meeting held on October 22 at the office of the divisional manager of railway.

Apart from taking steps to increase the income, the cell will undertake steps to stop travelling without tickets.

The cells will also suggest ways to improve services.

The meeting was informed that the income in the first three months of the fiscal 1992-93 was Taka 7,36,87,000 which was Taka 26,57,000 more than the first three months of the fiscal 1991-92.

SATKHIRA

Housewife's body exhumed after a month

Nov 1: The body of a housewife was exhumed after nearly a month in Sadar thana on Thursday on suspicion that she was killed by her husband, reports UNB.

The victim Tanjila Bagum (19), wife and Ruhul Amin of Khalinagar village in the thana, allegedly committed suicide by hanging herself and buried without post-mortem.

Deputy Commissioner ordered the exhumation of the body for autopsy after the deceased father alleged that his daughter was killed by Ruhul, Tanjila's husband.

FARIDPUR

Annual milad mahfil held

Nov 1: The annual milad mahfil of local Government Sarada Sundari Mahila college was held on Thursday at the college auditorium, reports BSS.

The programme of the milad included hand, nat-e-rasul and essay competitions among the students. A number of students participated in the competitions. Mamta Begum won first prize in essay competition her writing was on emancipation of women and Hazrat Muhammad (SM).

Vice-Principal Haridas Kundu, Professor Mansur Rahman, Prof. Shahidul Alam and Prof. Abdur Razzak spoke on the life and teachings of the great prophet.

CHITTAGONG

Four held on charge of murder

Nov 1: Chandanish police arrested four persons for their alleged connection with the killing of Sudarshan Barua, a shopkeeper, recently, reports BSS.

Sudarshan Barua was burnt to death at his own shop at midnight by his rivals a few days back.

According to police, rivals set fire on the shop of Sudarshan Barua at South Zoara, of Chandanish and the victim could not come out of the burning shop as the miscreants were firing indiscriminately. None also came to his rescue.

Police also said that Sudarshan Barua, who identified some dacoity in a dacoity case, was a victim of revenge.

Further investigation is on in this connection.

MYMENSINGH

733544 saplings planted

Nov 1: A total of 733544 saplings of different varieties have been planted in five districts of Greater Mymensingh district this year, reports BSS.

The districts are Mymensingh, Jamalpur, Sherpur, Netrakona and Kishoreganj.

According to the district Agriculture Extension Department, 420,530 saplings are of fruit bearing trees and 330,014 timbers.

The district-wise plantation is as follows: Mymensingh 314,430, Jamalpur 75,000, Sherpur 156,670, Netrakona 75,444 and Kishoreganj 112,000.



Information Minister Nazmul Huda visiting the road development work in Keraniganj thana on Friday. —PID photo

Hundreds of homesteads, trees damaged

Wild elephants kill 12 in Chittagong Hill Tracts

RANGAMATI Nov 1: Twelve persons were killed, 10 injured and hundreds of homesteads and thousands of fruit-bearing trees were damaged by wild elephants in the hill tracts region during last one month.

A herd of marauding wild elephants injured four persons of the same family including two children critically and damaged their homesteads, orchard and crops field at midnight September 22 in village Suparipatachara of Langadu thana in the district. The two children, brother and sister, are admitted in Rabita-Al-Alam-Al-Islam hospital in Langadu with their legs smashed.

The victims were identified as Shahjahan(32), his wife Hasina (28), their son Al-Amin (8) and daughter Shahela (8).

The marauding wild elephants also injured two persons and damaged homesteads, orchards, banana and papaya plantations on the border belt of Kaptai and Rajshahi thana of the district during the period.

The injured persons were treated as indoor patients in Christian Hospital at Chandraghona, Aung Thoat Chowdhury, Chairman of Chitramam Union Parishad said. "No details of damages and identifications of the victims were available."

Seven persons were killed, about 50 homesteads, and

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thousands of fruit-bearing trees were damaged at villages in Lama thana of Bundarban hill district from September 15-20. The identifications of the decreased available from the local leaders, concerned police-station and forest offices were: Wazuddin (60), his wife Delowara Begum (45), a seven-year old female child Mohammad Hussain of village Futerjhiri, Bashat Ali (55), his wife of village Bora Sangola, Duda Miah (40) of village Ramgirjhiri and an unidentified person from village Sakkat of Lama thana. All the victims were killed either while they were asleep or guarding the crops field on temporary hanging huts, the sources said.

According to eyewitnesses, the marauding wild-elephants numbering about 50, divided into groups roamed in the villages of Futerjhiri, Khalkul-khola, Kumarmarajhiri, Bamhatrijhiri, Damhatirjhiri, Hajjarnashi, Bora Sangola, Kumari, Rangarjhiri and Sakkata of Lama thana during the night coming from the adjacent reserved forest. The marauding elephants killed people, damaged homesteads, orchards, fruit-bearing trees while searching for their foods. The elephants took the nearby forest as their abode during day time.

"Nearly 1500 panic-stricken families of those villages have been passing their nights as captives of the marauding elephants," the range officer of Fashiakhali Forest Range said.

Hazi Mosharrif Husein Showdagar of Futerjhiri village told this correspondent in Bundarban on September 29 that the marauding elephants damaged and uprooted 500 jack fruit trees from his orchard. The trees of other species were also damaged, he said.

In Ramgarh and Pauchari thanas of Khagrachhari Hill District, atleast five persons were killed and more were injured where crops over few hundreds acres of land were damaged including homesteads and orchards during September by the marauding wild elephants. Rano Bikram Tripura, Councilor of the Local Government Council of Khagrachhari Hill District said adding that the wild boars are also damaging crops in the fields.

Though he could not mention the identification of the victims, the forest officials and the member of the law enforcing agencies admitted the incidents.

With the rapid disappearance of trees from the forest and absence of green trees in the hills, the marauding wild-elephants have been roaming in the locality and causing damages to lives and property, the environmentalists and wild-life experts, local leaders and the concerned circles opined.

Unemployment problem on rise

JAMALPUR, Nov 1: Unemployment problem is increasing gradually in all the seven thanas of the district.

Educated unemployed youths are in search of jobs and the landless uneducated youths are seriously looking for work and food, it is learnt.

The local population of the district is over 15 lakh. Of them, more than 85 per cent people depend on agriculture, five per cent on service and 10 per cent on business.

Among the agriculturists, more than 60 per cent are landless, 30 per cent are marginal and the remaining have lands to earn livelihood.

According to reports, per head cultivable land is meagre. Shortfall in output of food-grains has become a regular feature in the district.

The cultivators having small quantity of land can not cope with the increasing prices of agricultural inputs. They can not buy fertilizers, seeds, pesticides, bullock and even plough. They are to borrow

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money for cultivation due to hardships and poverty.

This class of people is deprived of irrigation facilities as they are unable to pay irrigation cost timely.

Moreover, they do not get the genuine price of their products like, jute, sugarcane,

potato and others. To repay the borrowed money, they are to sell it at a nominal price which are below the production cost.

There is only one fertilizer factory in the district where the unskilled youths get no job.

The situation has further aggravated by the continuous natural calamities which have damaged their hard earned crops and dwelling houses.

The farmers who lost their crops during the last floods, droughts and cyclones are not getting loans from the banks including the Krishi Bank.

Consequently, the poor farmers are to lend money from the local money lenders at an exorbitant rate of interest. After repayment of loan they have little amount to survive.

The local leaders and social workers have urged the government to create more job opportunities to mitigate the sufferings of hundreds of unemployed youths of the district.



RAJBARI: Cracks have developed on the lower part of the Charpara Bridge under Pangas thana of the district. The bridge may collapse at any moment. —Star photo

Notes from Natore

From Our Correspondent

Natore, Nov 1: The unit meeting of Jatiya Sangbadik Sangstha was held here at Natore Borna Press recently.

An 11-member executive committee was formed with Mahfuz Alam Muni (Correspondent, Radio Bangladesh, Rajshahi) and Azizul Haq Tuku. (Correspondent, Dainik Inqilab) as President and Secretary respectively.

The rest of the office-bearers are: Vice-president — Mujibur Rahman Mridha (Dainik Dinkal), Asstt Secretary — Mir Nurul Islam (Dainik Sangram), Organising Secretary — Md Zahidul Huda Farhad (Ajkar Kakol).

Four held charge of dacoity

Sadar thana police arrested four persons on charge of dacoity recently.

The arrested persons are: Abul Kashem and Abu Baker of Lakkhimpur village, Milton and Azad of Halbatpur village under Gurudus thana.

It is learnt that the dacoits entered into the house of one Kalipado Pramanik and looted the valuables worth about Taka 1.50 lakh.

Stolen goods recovered

Police recovered stolen goods of a project worth about Taka 19,000 from Samad Machinery Store at Puthia under Sadar thana on October 27.

Police sources said, acting on secret information, a police team raided the store and recovered the aforesaid goods.

Police arrested the Store Owner Abdus Samad in this regard.

Election of nine UP concludes

The election to the three union parishes under Sadar thana and 6 union parishes under Guruduspur thana were held here recently.

The elected Chairmen of the three union parishes under Sadar thana are Ansar Ali of the Tebaria UP, Emanuddin Gazi of the Boroharishpur UP and Hanif Ali Shaikh of the Chantui UP.

Abdur Aziz of Dharabarisa UP, Jantu Mia of Nazirpur UP, Abdus Salam of Chaplia UP, Abdul Latif Mridha of Biaghat UP, Toaguddin Mandal of Khubgpur UP and Imdadul Haq of Mastinda UP.

Seven dacoits nabbed

Police arrested seven dacoits from Mirpara under Sadar thana recently.

The arrested dacoits are: Nazimuddin, Nizamuddin and Alauddin of Natore, Abul Kalam Rana and Nizamuddin Tuku of Pabna and Mujibur Rahman Jewel and Sultal Fakir of Sirajganj district.

Miscreants kill minor girl

Miscreants killed a minor girl here recently.

According to the police sources, Nazrin (5), the daughter of Shamsul Islam of Chatra village under Shingra thana of the district was killed by some miscreants.

A case has been lodged with the local police in this regard.

422 tonnes of wheat for uplift projects

A total of 422 metric tons of wheat worth about Taka 28,69,600 has been sanctioned for the implementation of 253 projects in six thanas and two poura areas of the district during the current season.

According to an official sources, 72 metric tons of wheat for 44 schemes in Sadar thana, 79 metric tons for 41 schemes in Shingra, 47 metric tons for 28 schemes in Gurudaspur, 69 metric tons for 37 schemes in Boraigrame 71 metric tons for 45 schemes in Lalpur, 48 metric tons for 35 schemes in Bagatpara have been allocated.

Woman run over by train in Mymensingh

MYMENSINGH, Nov 1: An unidentified middle-aged woman was run over by the engine of a goods train here this (Tuesday) morning, reports UNB.

Railway sources said more than seven people were killed in train accidents at the railway station in last nine months.

Discussion meet on Abdur Quader Jilani (RA)

TANGAIL, Nov 1: Islamic foundation, Tangail held a discussion meeting on the life and philosophy of Hazrat Abdur Quader Jilani (R) on Tuesday at the local public library auditorium, reports BSS.

Prof Md Syedul Islam was the main speaker. Among others Akram Hossain, Md Abdul Mannan and Shamsuzzaman Khan spoke on the occasion.

Diarrhoea death toll now 39 in Tangail

TANGAIL, Nov 1: Death toll from among 4,400 diarrhoea cases in different parts of Tangail district reached to 39 as of Wednesday, reports BSS.

While confirming the figure the civil surgeon office said that 116 medical teams have been working in the affected areas.

Unofficial sources however, put the death figure at 110 from among ten thousand cases of Asiatic cholera that has broken out in the district in an epidemic form.

The worst affected areas are Modhupur, Mirzapur, Ghatail, and Bhupur thanas.

The civil surgeon office put the death figure as six in Sadar thana, one in Gopalpur, six in Bhupur, seven in Madhupur, three in Ghatail, four in Kalthati, six in Mirzapur, two in Basail, three in Delduar and one in Nagarpur.

Cholera panic has gripped all the eleven thanas of the district. Unhygienic living condition, scarcity of pure drinking

water are considered to be the main cause of the outbreak of the disease.

Another BSS report says: A ten-day long handball coaching for school girls of Kalthati thana concluded at Kalthati Pilot School ground on Saturday.

The coaching sponsored by sports council was participated by thirtyfive girl students. Abdul Khaleque conducted the coaching course, Sk Fazle Elahi, Thana Nirbahi Officer, Kalthati distributed certificates among the participants in the concluding ceremony.

Another report adds: A 7-year-old girl Sumi and a five-year-old boy Zahid recently drowned in the pond of Balla Pilot School near here.

The victims had come to Balla Bazar from Narsingdi with their father Jamaluddin. They went to the pond to take bath.

Their bodies were recovered one day after the incident.

Bamboo output declining fast in Kishoreganj

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, Nov 1: Bamboo production is declining very fast due to lack of proper maintenance, nursing of bamboo clusters and absence of planned plantation programme.

The district was once very famous for bamboo production. There were thousands of clusters on vast tracts land of the district but now they are vanished. As such acute scarcity of bamboo has been prevailing in these areas and consequently prices of bamboo have increased several times.

On the other hand, no efforts is being taken to save the bamboo clusters from decaying in these areas.

The owners of the clusters lack production method. The bamboos are lifted at random and sold in the markets. Tender bamboo plants are not left for future growth.

Production of bamboo is not increasing according to the growing needs of the people.

This has also created an adverse affect on both day labourers and bamboo based cottage industry.

Meanwhile, repair and construction works of kutcha houses in the rural areas are being hampered badly for want of bamboo and traditional cottage industry depending on bamboos is also facing extinction.

It may be stated that 90 per cent of the houses in the rural areas are kutcha and bamboo is basically used for the construction of these houses. The price of a bamboo is now between Taka 60 and 75. As a result, 75 per cent of the villagers are unable to buy it at an exorbitant price.

The sufferings of those who depend on bamboo based industry for their livelihood are uncountable. Many of them are sitting idle for want of work while others have been compelled to leave the profession due to poor return from their products.

Husband gets life-term for wife murder

From Our Correspondent

CHUADANGA, Nov 1: One Sekender Ali of village Teorbila under Alamdanga thana of the district was convicted and sentenced to suffer life-term for murdering his wife. He was also fined taka 2500 in default to suffer one year imprisonment more.

His younger brother Azizul Hoque, another accused of the case was sentenced to suffer one year RI and fined Taka 500 in default to suffer another one month imprisonment.

The above conviction was delivered in a judgement passed by the learned District and Sessions Judge Chuadanga recently.

The prosecution story in brief is that on March 30, 1990 there was quarrel between the two wives of accused Sekender Ali at his village home at Teorbila under Alamdanga thana of Chuadanga

district. Being excited, the accused Sekender Ali assaulted his second wife Baby Khatun and forcefully gave some poison into the mouth of Baby Khatun.

As a result, Baby Khatun died. The brother of accused Sekender Ali and another accused Azizul Hoque informed the death report of Baby Khatun to Alamdanga thana police as a suicide. Alamdanga thana authority started a case in this connection.

After proper investigation, the investigating officer of the case MA Mannan submitted chargesheet against accused Sekender Ali and his brother Azizul Hoque as the case was not a suicide but murder.

The learned District and Sessions Judge Harun-ur-Rashid examining the records and witnesses awarded the punishment to Sekender Ali and his brother Azizul Hoque.

Miscreants stab one to death, kidnap, kill another one

MAGURA, Nov 1: Two persons were brutally killed in Salika thana of the district last week, reports UNB.

In one incident Mofazzel Hossain (30) of Katuli village was stabbed by a group of miscreants on October 20 while he was returning home from Jessore town.

He was rushed to the local health complex in critical condition. Later, he succumbed to injuries on way to Dhaka for treatment.

Local police, meanwhile arrested Akkas Ali from the village for alleged involvement in the murder.

A total of 80 ideal farmers and owners of demonstration plots from different parts of the thana participated in the training course concluded on Wednesday.

The training course was formally inaugurated by Abul Hossain Mollah, Deputy Director of district agriculture office.

Similar course was also held at Mohammadpur thana of the district last week.