

## District roundup

### SYLHET Help establish drug-free society

Nov 2: State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Abdul Mannan urged all sections of the people to create mass awareness against drug abuse and addiction, reports BSS.

He stressed the need for united and coordinated efforts to help establish a drug free society.

The state minister was speaking as chief guest at a seminar on anti-drug and anti-smoking here recently.

Organised by the Anti-Drug and Anti-Smoking Society (ADASS) Sylhet branch, the seminar was addressed by a number of renowned physicians of Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College.

Earlier, the state minister inaugurated 'Hotel Plash', a newly built private hotel in Sylhet. Parliament Member K A Malik and Vice-Chancellor of Shahjalal Science and Technology University Professor Sadruddin Ahmed also spoke on the occasion.

### KUSHITIA Tributes paid to Sher-e-Bangla

Nov 2: The 119th birth anniversary of Sher-e-Bangla A K Fazul Huq was observed here under the auspices of greater Barisal Samity, Kushitia unit, reports BSS.

A function was organised to mark the occasion. Tadzibul Islam, president of the samity presided over the function while Prof. Mohammad Abdul Hamid was present as chief guest.

The speakers paid tributes to the great leader and said that the country now needs another Sher-e-Bangla to solve the problems.

Police super of Kushitia also spoke on the occasion.

### BARGUNA Civic amenities meagre

Nov 2: The inhabitants of Betagi Thana of the district have complained of inadequate civic amenities in the thana headquarters, reports UNB.

The roads are very narrow and without lamps. Drainage and sanitation facilities are lacking, they said. Frequent power failure and mosquito menace have compounded the problem.

Acute shortage of accommodation is also a big problem as new houses are not constructed to meet the needs of increasing number of people.

Adulterated foodstuff are freely sold in the markets and restaurants, they added.

### BRAHMANBARIA Islamic cultural contest held

Nov 2: An Islamic cultural competition was held here at Nabinagar High School auditorium organised by Islami Foundation recently.

The function was presided over by the Thana Nirbahi Officer, Mohinuddin Ahmed. Islami Foundation Secretary Shahjahan Siddiqui Bhir Bikram attended the function as chief guest while Headmaster of Nabinagar High School Shahidul Hoque was present as special guest. Deputy Director, district Islami Foundation also spoke at the function.

About 100 students of 13 schools took part in the competition. Later, prizes were distributed among the winners.

### KISHOREGANJ Housewife commits suicide

Nov 2: A young housewife allegedly committed suicide by hanging herself with the ceiling of her house in Nandail thana of the district recently.

It is learnt that the victim Sherifa Khatun (20) of Modoupur village was being tortured by her husband for dowry for a long time.

As a result, she became fed up and committed suicide.

Police later, recovered his body and sent it to the morgue of Kishoreganj Sadar Hospital for autopsy.

A case was filed with Nandail police in this connection.

### JAMALPUR Savings week inaugurated

Nov 2: Savings week was formally inaugurated in the district on Saturday last, reports BSS.

A function was held at collectorate conference room. It was presided over by Mrinal Kanti Bhadra, District Savings Officer. Additional District Magistrate A K M Wahedul Hoq inaugurated the week. A cross section of people attended the function.

### CHITTAGONG

#### Seminar on private ownership in Islam held

Nov 2: Speakers at a seminar on "private ownership in the light of Islam" held at the local girls' guide house at Saifuddin Khaleda road here Saturday last said that Islam does not approve of extravagance and that compulsory payment of Zakat has limited the income of those Muslims who earned much, reports BSS.

They said that in Islam every one is to earn through honest way and spend one's earnings in proper ways. Islam also encourages spending for the welfare of the Muslim community.

The seminar held under the auspices of Islami Mohila Patchakra was presided over by its president Begum Zulekha Khatun while Prof. Alme Chowdhury was present as the chief guest.

Prof. Shahzadi Begum Marziana, Prof. Nilufar Shamsuddin, Begum Rahima Mahmud and Begum Sujista Akhtar took part in it.

Advocate Ferdous Ara Kabir presented main article on the subject.

### GAIBANDHA Property worth several lakhs taka gutted

Nov 2: Property worth several lakhs taka was gutted in a fire at Choumatha area of Palashbari thana sadar recently, reports BSS.

The fire was stated to have originated from a birt butt. A jute godown and seven shops among other things were burnt to ashes.

### SIRAJGANJ One gets 5 yrs RI for using forged currency notes

Nov 2: One Marzel Hossain (45) was awarded five years rigorous imprisonment and fined Taka 5000 in default to suffer six month's imprisonment for using forged currency notes. Sub-Judge of Sirajganj court Md Maniruddin declared the judgement.

According to the prosecution, on April 19, 1990 tobacco merchant Marzel Hossain came to Sultana Boarding at Sirajganj Bazar station road.

When Marzel paid a 100-taka note to the manager and he handed it over to a traffic constable on duty. More 29 forged notes of 100 Taka were recovered from his possession.

The Sub-Judge, after examining the witnesses and evidences awarded afore-said punishment to accused Marzel Hossain, son of late Shahadat Ali of village Gayerdider in Kushtia district.

### AGRI-VARSITY

#### Employees' assoc executive body formed

Nov 2: The general election of the Employees' Association of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) to form its 15-member executive body for the year 1992 was held here recently, says a Press release.

The new executive body of the association has been formed with Laskat Ali as its President and Abdul Matin as its General Secretary.

Other officials of the new body include A Kader as Vice-President, Jahruddin as Assistant General Secretary, Shamsuddin as Treasurer, A Taher as Social Secretary, Azharul Islam as Cultural Secretary and Abu Taher, Jamaluddin, A Rezzak, Khabiruddin, Solaiman, Saïdur Rahman, A K Sarkar and A B Siddique as its members.



MANIKGANJ: BIWTA recently demolished 300 Hotel, Restaurant and shops at Arichanagorbhari ghat which has brought economic crisis for over 2000 people. — Star photo

## Students go violent against pattern of SSC exam

HABIGANJ, Nov 2: Hundreds of school students staged a violent demonstration in the town in protest of changing the pattern of SSC examination, reports UNB.

The rowdy students numbering about 200 paraded the main streets and pelted stones at both government and private buildings damaging at least seven of them. They went on rampage and destroyed documents and broke window panes of the buildings.

The angry protestors ransacked the offices of the Deputy Commissioner, Zila Parishad, Family Planning, Krishi Bank, Pubali Bank and Jiban Bima.

Secondary Education Board office was also severely damaged by the attack.

The protesting students of different schools also damaged five cars, two jeeps, one truck,

and a coach in the town during their demonstration between 11 am 1 pm.

BSS from Faridpur says: At least six vehicles were damaged on Sunday when a group of school students went on rampage protesting the newly introduced curricula for the ensuing Secondary School Certificate examinations.

A group of students of local schools started agitation on the streets from Saturday. The agitating students damaged two vehicles Saturday. Later, police brought the situation under control. But the students again started agitation Sunday morning and damaged vehicles on the streets.

The students Sunday damaged four vehicles including one ambulance of a private clinic. Police arrested thirteen students. The situation is now

under control. A Netrokona report adds: Two private vehicles were damaged by a group of school students at Barabazar shopping centre yesterday.

Eyewitnesses said several hundred students of different schools brought out a procession in Netrakona town Sunday morning in protest against the new marking system in the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examinations. The processions paraded different roads. They damaged two trucks at Barabazar. Police rushed to the spot and dispersed the processions.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh Transport Workers Union, Netrakona district unit in a Press release issued here strongly condemned the attack and demanded exemplary punishment to those who had damaged the trucks.

## Meritorious students of Khulna, Chittagong accorded reception

CHITTAGONG, Nov 2: A reception was accorded to some meritorious students of Nizampur College at a simple ceremony at the college premises on Sunday, reports BSS.

Vice-Chancellor of the Chittagong University Prof Rafiqul Islam Chowdhury attended the function as chief guest.

Presided over by Deputy Commissioner of Chittagong A H M Abul Kashem, the function was addressed, among others, by Dean of Arts Faculty Chittagong University Prof Mizanur Rahim, Dean of Social Science Prof Mahbubullah, Dean of Science Prof Sultan Ahmed, Prof Fastul Alam, Prof Abdul Mannan Chowdhury,

former MP Mosharrif Hossain and college Principal Monem Billah.

The Vice-Chancellor in his speech underlined the importance of mutual discussion and consensus to stamp out terrorism and anarchy from the society.

Prof. Chowdhury urged the students to devote themselves to their study with diligence and utmost sincerity by shunning the path of violence.

He later distributed prizes among 26 brilliant students of the college.

It rounded off with a colourful function. A report from Khulna says: Khulna City Corporation on Sunday accorded a reception at the corporation conference

hall to the meritorious students of the colleges of Khulna metropolitan area who had secured places in the last HSC examination under Jessore Board.

Khulna City Corporation Mayor Sheikh Tayebur Rahman welcomed the students and gave away prizes as the chief guest.

The function was addressed, among others, by KDA Chairman SK Akramul Islam and a number of teachers, guardians and students.

Sheikh Tayebur Rahman said, the present government was endeavouring to ensure education for all. He sought cooperation for maintaining congenial atmosphere in the educational institutions.

## Five persons killed in accidents

RANGPUR, Nov 2: Two riders of a motorcycle were killed in a road accident on Rangpur-Bogra Highway at Satbari near the town on Saturday, reports UNB.

The victims were identified as Mithu Khan (28), a local contractor, and Akhter (32), a worker of Palli Biddut Samity. Both of them hailed from Ullapara village of Sirajganj district.

Police said they met the tragic end when a speeding truck collided head-on with the motorcycle and run over them.

Police seized the truck. The driver and helper managed to flee.

The bodies were sent to the morgue for autopsy and a case was filed with the local police.

A report from Jamalpur says

: A boy was crushed under the wheels of a horse cart at Kaidula Tekipara village in Sadar thana on Sunday.

The victim was identified as Sohel (5), son of Abdul Hakim, of the area.

Witnesses said the goods loaded cart run over him while he was playing at road side. He died on the spot. His body was sent morgue for autopsy.

A case has been filed with the local police.

Another report from Dinajpur says: One housewife was killed in train accident at Pulbari Bus Stand rail crossing in the town on Tuesday.

The victim identified as Shafia wife of Ekkaber Ali of Dhakapalpaty while the crossing the rail line at the point was knocked down by the Dhaka Ekata Express train. She was

rushed to Dinajpur General Hospital here she succumbed to her injuries.

Her body was sent morgue for postmortem. A case has been filed with the local thana.

Meanwhile a report from Comilla adds: A girl allegedly committed suicide by taking poison here at the Shahebabad village of Brahmanpara thana.

According to some villagers, Nurjahan (16) committed suicide on October 23 apparently because of her illegal pregnancy.

Police said Nurjahan's father Abdur Razaque filed a case against Felu Mia, blaming him for her pregnancy and subsequent death.

Police investigation is going on.

## Notes from Sirajganj

From Our Correspondent SIRAJGANJ, Nov 2: Manjoor Kader and Zahidul Islam of Sirajganj were awarded gold medals by Bangladesh Postal Stamp Exhibition '92 held at the National Museum.

A total of 554 participants in four groups contested in the exhibition. Manjoor Kader stood first in Asia group showing 1208 stamps and Zahidul Islam stood first in Bangladesh Junior group by exhibiting about 400 stamps.

### Shaheed Zehad day observed

Sirajganj district unit of Ganatantrik Chhatra Otkya (GCO) observed Shaheed Zehad day with a befitting manner at Sirajganj Government College premises.

Earlier, a rally paraded the town. Among others Bakul Raihan and M Tarik while addressing a meeting called upon all to implement the dreams of Zehad. Shaheed Zehad was killed at Dhaka during anti-despotic movement of 1990. He was the JCD leader of Ullapara Government College.

### 100-taka forged notes flood markets

Forged 100-taka notes have flooded the markets of Sirajganj district.

A group of organised criminals have been cheating the people of villages. Some forged 100-taka notes were visible in the town shops also. Meanwhile, Sirajganj police arrested one person with machines and chemicals for producing forged notes.

### Damaged wheat distributed

A total of 98,531 metric tons of wheat have allegedly been distributed among 3025 VGD card-holders of 10 unions under Sadar thana.

Some concerned UP chairman told that the wheat lifted from Sirajganj food godown were rotten and damaged by pest. The damaged food-stuffs were distributed among the destitute widows.

### Two constables withdrawn

Abul Hossain and Abu Bakkar Siddique, two constables of police posted in Belkuchi thana were withdrawn and now under custody.

The constables were allegedly engaged in illegal jobs including fake recovery of 'heroin' from a book shop at Mukundagati bazar. While contacted, a source of district police administration told that the matter is now under investigating.

### White Cane Day celebrated

World White Cane Day was observed at Sirajganj Railway Colony High School premises recently.

The day was inaugurated by the headmaster of Railway Colony School. The programme included distribution of white canes among the blinds.

### Theft of transformers rampant

Three 50-KVA electrical transformers were stolen away recently from village Hyderpur in Kamar-Khandana thana. Since then irrigation in about 150 acres of IRI fields have been stopped. Previously two electrical transformers from Jamtol and three transformers from Belkuchi were stolen away causing sufferings to the consumers.

### Tk 36 lakh rice of govt godowns damaged

FENI, Nov 2: A total of 330,282 metric tons of rice worth about Taka 36.30 lakh have become unfit for human consumption at three godowns of the district, according to a district administration source, reports UNB.

Of these, about 127,581 metric tons have been damaged at Feni godown, 185,356 metric tons at Porshuram godown and 16,608 metric tons at Fulgazi godown.

Regional Food Department has strongly denied the report but admitted that tenders for disposal of the rice had been cancelled at the instruction from higher authorities in Dhaka.

The instruction from Dhaka had been issued after reviewing a chemical examination report saying that the rice has become unsuitable for human consumption.

Local rice dealers, however, claimed that the quantity of rotten rice would be much larger and the loss in terms of money would be at least Taka 50 lakh.

## Beggars on increase at Satkhira town

SATKHIRA, Nov 2: The number of beggars is on the rise in the town as a result of poverty, landlessness and unemployment in the rural areas of the district, reports UNB.

Scores of poor and destitute from the villages are pouring into the district headquarters in search of jobs and shelter which are not readily available.

As a result, most of those people are forced to take up begging for their survival.

Residents of the town complained that they were being constantly disturbed by hordes of these beggars at their homes, public places as well as on the streets.

Some female beggars, some residents said, were resorting to prostitution causing moral degradation in the society.

Beggars squatting here and there and defecating in the open have also been polluting the environment and spreading diseases.

Elite of the town have urged the district administration to take measures for proper rehabilitation of the floating people.

Another report adds: A total of 67 people including 31 women and 9 children died of snake venom from June to October this year.

Of them, 17 died in Satkhira, 10 in Shamnagar, 12 in Assasuni, 8 in Kaliganj, 5 in Debhata, 8 in Kalaroa and 7 in Taka.

There is scarcity of the anti-venom serum which is administered to those bitten by snakes.

## Heroin worth Tk 50 lakh seized in Kushtia

KUSHTIA, Nov 2: Bangladesh Rifles along with district Task Force seized 420 grams of heroin worth about Taka 50 lakh from an insurance company office here Saturday, reports UNB.

Acting on secret information, the team raided the local branch of federal Insurance Company office in the morning and recovered the heroin from the personal file cabinet of its Manager Anwarul Islam Tuku. The manager remained absconding.

Local Narcotics Control Department official after preliminary test identified the heroin as high quality one and sample of the same has been sent to Dhaka for proper test.

A case has been filed with the police.

BSS report adds: A housewife, Maya Khatoun, was killed under the wheels of a shuttle train on Friday at Harishankarpur, one mile from Kushtia railway station.

While the victim was cross-

ing the rail line she was run over by the train. She was a resident of Lahiripara area or Kushtia town.

The body of Maya Khatoun was sent to Kushtia General Hospital for postmortem.

## Mother flees hospital leaving news born baby

CHANDPUR, Nov 2: A mother fled the Sadar Hospital here after giving birth to a baby-boy, reports UNB.

According to the hospital sources, Shipri Rani Das (20), wife of Goutam Das of Bashara Munshirhat village in Habiganj thana of the district was admitted on October 16 and delivered the child the same day.

But the next morning, she went out of the hospital of fetch breakfast from a nearby restaurant but did not return.



MAULVIBAZAR: Ebadur Rahman Chowdhury, MP speaking at a seminar on heart disease and the bad affects of smoking organised by Monu Rotary Club was held here recently. — Star photo

## Seven to suffer life imprisonment for murder

SATKHIRA, Nov 2: Six persons including three in absentia were given life term on Saturday for murdering a young man, reports UNB.

The court also fined them Taka 5000 each or in default to suffer imprisonment for one year more.

Another report from Rangpur says: A husband was given life imprisonment Tuesday on charge of killing his wife, court sources here said.

The convict, Ramchandra' Barman of Gopal village in Pirgacha thana was tried in absentia.

He was also fined Taka 3,000 or in default to suffer three months rigorous imprisonment more.

According to the prosecution story, the accused beat his pregnant wife Maya Rani to death following a family feud on August 5, 1991.

APP Abdul Hamid conducted the prosecution while Advocate Kamruzzaman defended the accused.

## Thousands of patients suffering from lathyrism

PABNA, Nov 2: Thousands of patients suffering from lathyrism here have now resorted to begging for survival in absence of proper treatment and rehabilitation, reports UNB.

According to a report, lathyrism has been spreading in the district with about 10,000 patients reported in Bhanganura, Faridpur, Chatmohar, Bera, Sujannagar, Santhia, Ishurdi, Atghoria and Sadar thana.

The government carried out a survey and several NGOs took up a few projects to help combat the disease in the area. But the projects were abandoned following allegations of misappropriation of funds and corruption.

Another project titled 'Save Bangladesh' under which foodgrains used to be distributed among the suffering kids and mothers also wound

up following allegations of corruption.

Local leaders have urged the government to take measures for treatment and rehabilitation of the lathyrism patients in the district.

Another report adds: Indian insecticides are being sold unabatedly in the markets of nine thanas of the district, informed sources said.

The smuggled insecticides like Theodin, Theonin, Hengidal, Phuradan and Vildol are said to be harmful to animal, fish, crops, frogs and to soil fertility. Over-use of insecticides is also polluting the environment threatening ecological balance, fish and crop production.

On the other hand, local insecticides available in the market are adulterated, ineffective and expensive, farmers said.



NATORE: The local Sammitito Sangkritik Jote organised a street drama, 'Lanchito Banchito' written by Dr Jakir Talukder to press home the setting up of a full-fledged TV station here recently. — Star photo