

## District roundup

CHUADANGA  
BKB to disburse  
Tk 4.64 cr as  
agri-loan

From Our Correspondent

Nov 4: The Bangladesh Krishi Bank has fixed up a target to disburse an amount of Taka four crore 64 lakh and 22 thousand as agricultural loan among the farmers of four thanas of Chuadanga district during the current financial year.

The loans will be distributed through 10 Krishi Bank branches of four thanas of the district. The thanas are: Chuadanga sadar, Alamdanga, Damurhuda and Jibannagar.

Meanwhile, the bank has distributed Taka 27 lakh in the district as loan till October 15.

The loan will be disbursed for crop cultivation, purchasing of irrigation machines, and cattleheads.

BARGUNA  
Foreign, obscene  
films shows  
regular

From Our Correspondent

Nov 4: Foreign and obscene films are being exhibited openly here in many public places causing moral degradation of the younger generation.

Both Hindi and obscene films are being shown in rural areas through VCPs.

The school, madrasa and college going students often drop their classes in a body to enjoy the films, some of the guardians alleged.

Some unscrupulous video shop-owners in the town have turned their shops into mini-cinema halls where obscene films are shown on a commercial basis.

Due to irregularity and irresponsibility of the Post Master and peon of Gulshakhali Post Office of Amtali thana, the general public has been suffering much for long.

There are rules and regulations whereby the mail bags reach destinations and are distributed but due to alleged negligence of post master, the mail bag comes here two days in a week and letters are not delivered regularly.

SYLHET  
Minor girl raped,  
dies in hospital

From Our Correspondent

Nov 4: A ten-year old girl met the tragic end of her life recently due to excess bleeding following raping by two miscreants.

The heinous incident took place at village Atapur under Biswanath thana of Sylhet.

According to the reports, the victim Parvin, daughter of Habiburrahman, a poor day labourer of the village went to a nearby place from their house to collect cow-dung to use as fuel.

Nizam and Tosir Ali of the same village swooped on the minor girl and raped her forcibly. At one stage she became stunned and made a hue crying loudly and some villagers reached the spot and took her to the Biswanath thana hospital at an unconscious state. But due to excessive bleeding, she succumbed to her injuries on the next day.

The criminals however, managed to escape just after the incident. The victim's father Habiburrahman has lodged a case in this connection with the Biswanath thana.

The body had been sent to the Sylhet MAG Osmany Medical College for post-mortem. The accused persons had reportedly been absconding.

SATKHIRA  
Number of  
suicide on  
increase

From Our Correspondent

Nov 4: The number of suicide in increasing alarmingly in Satkhira sadar thana.

A total of 155 persons committed suicide during the period of January 1, 1992 to October 19 of the current year.

Family troubles, failure in love, poverty, dowry are the main causes of the suicide, it is learnt.

It is reported that Hajiron Bibi (50) of Dhulihar, Ambia Khatun (25), wife of Ishaque Qazi of Kamarbaisa, Mahabur Rahman (74) of Agardari, Meherunnessa (14) daughter of Entaj Ali of Baikari, Tulshi Rani Mondal (22) wife of Swapan Mondal of Barapota, Johra Khatun (70) of Shialdanga and Shahpanara (19) daughter of Tengra all under sadar thana committed suicide during the period from October 1 to October 19 last.

JAMALPUR  
Founding day  
observed

From Our Correspondent

Nov 4: The 14th founding anniversary of Jityatabadi Jubo Dal was observed at Jamalpur on Oct 27.

District and thana Jubadal arranged discussion meeting, milad mahfil and procession at the town.

A discussion meeting was held in front of Amtola ground with Fuzul Qader Helal in the chair.

SM Kahirul Bashar Chisty, President of district BNP was also present in the occasion while it addressed among others by Al-haj Giwsuddin Samali, Salek Talukdar Kajal, Daily Star correspondent Meherullah, Fuzul Qader Helal, Abdus Salam and Abdur Rahman.

Later, the Jubadal members brought out a procession which paraded main street of the town with festoon, banner and photograph of late President Ziaur Rahman and Prime Minister Begum Zia.

KISHOREGANJ  
Privatisation  
of T&T Board  
protested

From Our Correspondent

Nov 4: Employees and workers of Kishoreganj Telephone Exchange brought out a procession at the town to protest the government decision to privatise T&T Board on October 28.

The processionists paraded the main thoroughfares of the town and chanted various slogans in favour of their demands.

The processionist later held a big protest rally in front of the telephone bhaban with Prodip Kumar Bishnu, President, Kishoreganj district unit of BSKP in the chair.

It was addressed among other by Kazi Delwar Hossain, Rafiqul Islam, Faruk Ahmed, Layesuddin, and Sarwarjahan.

FENI  
Seminar on  
youth day  
held

Nov 4: A seminar on "National Youth Day" was held at the training centre of the Jubo Unnayan Adhidapter here on Sunday, reports UNB.

Deputy Commissioner (in charge) Nurul Haque was present at the seminar as chief guest. It was addressed by Deputy Director of the Jubo Unnayan Adhidapter Nurul Karim Majumder and Principal of Feni Government College Nurul Anwar.

The Chief guest distributed prizes among the winners of games and competitions organised on the occasion of the Youth Day.

CHANDPUR  
Two women  
commit suicide

Nov 4: A housewife has committed suicide by hanging herself from the roof of the house at Maidhya Raghunathpur village in sadar thana, police sources said, reports UNB.

The victim was identified as Selina Akter (23), wife of Lokman Khan and mother of three children.

At the time of occurrence on Oct 28 her husband was not present in the house. The following morning she was found dead.

The body was sent to sadar thana hospital for autopsy.

Her husband, Lokman Khan, a mason has been absconding since the incident. Village sources said Selina was pregnant and she was beaten seriously by her husband that night probably for dowry.

Another woman committed suicide by taking poison at Dhoupordi village in sadar thana, police said here today.

The victim was identified as Hasina Begum (22), wife of Abul Hossain Khandaker.

MADARIPUR  
Small, marginal  
farmers deprived  
of farm loan

MADARIPUR, Nov 4: Agri loans meant for the small and marginal farmers are being used by the affluent section of the society with the connivance of some bank officials, some farmers informed, reports UNB.

The existing rule of getting agricultural loans through pass book is not working well due to malpractice of section employees the affected farmers said.



THAKURGAON: Children in a meeting held recently at the Bhamdra primary school field under Ranisankail thana of the district protesting the killing of Suman, a student of class II of the school. The speakers at the meeting condoled the death and demanded exemplary punishment to the killers. — Star photo

Excessive use of fertilizers  
reduce soil fertility

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, Nov 4: The indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizers and continued cultivation of same crop on some plot of land are steadily destroying the fertility of soil in seven thanas of the district.

Cultivators having little knowledge about the soil components use chemical fertilizers indiscriminately to get maximum production and thus the production capability of the soil decreases.

The growers are also seen cultivating same crop on the same land without interval. They have forgotten the use of organic fertilizers which possess some ingredients to retain the production capability and project decay of the same of the soil.

Most of the cultivable lands of the thanas of the district are used twice or thrice for producing crops every year with heavy application of chemical fertilizer including urea, TSP and Potus.

The farmers rarely use organic fertilizers including cowdung. The production capability of land thus rapidly declines.

Production capability of soil is also being destroyed with heavy iron of underground water extracted by deep and shallow tubewells used for irrigation and siltation of sands on soil due to floods.

Experts suggest that chemical fertilizers should be used after testing of soil. Otherwise the production rate would come down and the time may be less than the production cost, experts apprehend.

Besides, agriculture in our country largely depends on the mercy of nature. Crops are sometimes seriously affected by natural calamities like flood, drought, and cyclone.

The cultivators directly involved in agriculture should properly be trained about the cultivation method by arranging camps temporarily every year, the experts opined.

Sharp water level fall threatens  
ferry services in Padma

MANIKGANJ, Nov 4: Ferry services between Aricha-Daulatdia and Mawa-Kawarkandi have been threatened due to sharp recession of water in the river Padma, reports UNB.

BIWTC official sources said playing of Roll on Ro Off ferry services have been hampered due to want of required navigability of the river.

They expressed the fear that the services may be closed any time in the route.

The water level of the river Jamuna registered sharp fall with the advent of dry season as the water flow is being controlled by Farakka Barrage in India.

The officials said ferry services between Sirajganj-Bhuapur and Bheramara-Pakshy remained suspended for two weeks due to want of navigability.

The other routes including Aricha-Nagarbari, Nagarbari-Baghabari, Sirajganj-Jagannathganj and Bahadurabad-Teesta ghat are in disarray and may close any time due to want of required water flow.

Ferries in these routes were plying through narrow channel where depth of water was only eight to nine feet. For smooth running of the ferry 12 to 13 feet deep water is needed, the officials said.

Meanwhile, communication between the capital and 36 northern and south-western districts are being hampered due to delay in ferry crossing between Aricha and Nagarbari and Daulatdia Ghat. Over 5000, shoals have been emerged in the river Padma narrowing the navigational channel at many points stretching from Baigakulini Munshiganj to Dakkhawa in Kurigram.

The playground of the school has turned into a place for cattle grazing.

The 31-bed Amtali Hospital is beset with manifold problems for a long time. The problems are inadequate arrangement for doctors, medicine, X-ray, blood bank, pathological needs and accommodation.

The two-storeyed hospital buildings has accommodation for only 31 patients and other patients.

The outdoor department is functioning no doubt but there is no waiting room for patients where about 300 to 400 patients are coming for treatment every day from southern part of Kalapara, northern part of Patuakhali and for slung areas of Amtali thana.

A van driver Ali Baksha was run over by a speeding bus at Churasmankati Bazar Tuesday morning.

The bodies were sent to morgue for autopsy. Two cases were filed with the police.

Across the country  
Four siblings-all deaf and dumb

By Quamrul Arefin

It is hard to believe, but all the four sons and daughters of a man in Chuadanga are quite deaf and dumb. Bahar Ali of village Joyrampur under Damurhuda thana is father of the four handicapped children who have now all grown up.

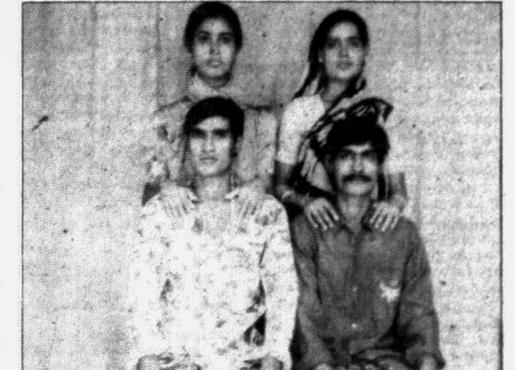
Joyrampur is popularly known as "Baraga" (big village) of the Chuadanga district. Bahar Ali thought in his early life that he would build up a happy life with a wife and children. He got married and also got his children.

He is now the father of seven of whom three are sons and four are daughters. All lent three of them are affected.

A few days back I went to the village to meet Bahar Ali. He was talking to me about his misfortune. He showed me his four deaf and dumb sons and daughters. The two handicapped sons are Lutfor Ali (27) and Sobur Ali (25) and the two daughters, both unmarried, are Rezia Khatun (23) and Dukhiron (21). These two sons are also unmarried, because nobody is coming forward to marry them, Bahar Ali said.

At the first sight I could easily realise that Bahar Ali is a poor man yet I asked about his situation. He told me that he is indeed so. He has got no landed property. He is a day labourer.

He maintains his family only



The deaf and dumb brothers and sisters — Lutfor Ali, Sobur Ali (sitting from left) Rezia Khatun and Dukhiron (standing from left). — Star photo

## More funds needed for hospital

From Our Correspondent

BARISAL, Nov 4: The Barisal Sadar Adhunik Hospital is now beset with manifold problems due to negligence of concerned authorities and shortage of necessary fund.

It is learnt that only Taka 15 lakh is the annual allocation for the hospital which is quite inadequate for the 100-bed hospital.

The salaries of the doctor, nurses and other staff are being paid from the allocated amount. Other expenditures of the hospital are also maintained from the said amount.

Though it is 100-bed hospital, more than 150 patients are found as indoor patients who even stay on the verandah of the hospital.

It is informed that some posts including doctors are still lying vacant.

The X-ray machine of the hospital remains inoperative for maximum time for want of films. Sometimes, date expired films are used which hampers proper investigations.

About 58,560 hectares will be brought under wheat cultivation in 66 thanas of eleven southern districts under Barisal Agriculture Zone (BAZ) in the current season.

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

According to Agriculture Extension Department, production target of wheat has been fixed at 1,17,120 metric tons this year in these districts.

Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation (BADCO) has taken up a programme to supply seeds fertilizers, insecticides and other necessary inputs to the farmers of the districts for successful implementation of the programme, the source said.

Hearing the hue and cry the neighbours rushed to the spot and brought the fire under control and rescued the inmates from the house.

A case was filed with Kaliganj thana.

An earlier report from Sylhet adds: Students of different schools staged demonstration in the town protesting change in the pattern of question papers of SSC examination.

The agitating students brought out several processions in different parts of the town at 11 am and went on rampage damaging at least two vehicles in Mirzajangal and Chouhata areas.

At one stage police interfered the processions to disperse the rowdy crowd and picked up four students.

The arrested are Fakrul Islam and Jasimmuddin (Class-10) of Shah Paran High School, Ashok Acharyya (Class-10) of Gutatikor High School and Abul Miah.

Diarrhoea alarming in 2 thanas of Dinajpur

DINAJPUR, Nov 4: Diarrhoea has broken out in an alarming form in two unions of Sadar thana of the district, reports UNB.

More than one hundred people were attacked by the disease in the last week. Of them, 22 were admitted to Dinajpur General Hospital, their conditions were stated to be critical.

The affected unions are: Fazilpur and Shashara. Consumption of adulterated food and taking of impure water were attributed to the outbreak of the disease.

Local people said no measures were taken yet to combat the growing disease. They urged the authority to take immediate measures to check further spread of the disease.

A housewife was allegedly beaten to death by her husband in Pirganj thana of Thakurgaon district, police sources said today.

Family sources said Kalpana was severely beaten by her husband Naresh Chandra Roy in village Thumtia following a family feud. She succumbed to her injuries later.

Naresh was absconding

Meanwhile, 90 per cent of the people of the rural areas, who depend mainly on bamboo as basic construction material, are facing difficulties due to scarcity and price hike of bamboo.

Rotary Club donates 4 beds to hospital

CHANDPUR, Nov 4: The Central Rotary Club under its "Child Welfare Project" Saturday donated four beds to the Chandpur Sadar Hospital, reports UNB.

The Deputy Commissioner Yakub Ali, handed the beds over to Civil Surgeon Dr MA Rashid at a simple ceremony held at the Rotary Bhaban.

The function was addressed, among others, by DC of the district Yakub Ali and Civil Surgeon Dr AM Rashid.



Education Minister, Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar speaking at the installation ceremony of the Savar College Students, Union as chief guest recently.