

District roundup

BARISAL National Youth Day observed

Nov 6: The National Youth Day was observed in the district on Sunday, reports BSS. Youth Development Department of Barisal district organised programme of the day which included rally, blood-donations, football match, discussions and cultural function. Abdul Khalek, Additional Deputy Commissioner (General), Barisal, presided over the discussion meeting at the Aswini Kumar Town Hall. Md Mamtaj Uddin, Deputy Commissioner Barisal, was present as chief guest.

KISHOREGANJ Dacoits loot valuables

From Our Correspondent Nov 6: A daring dacoity was committed in the house of one Ratan Ghose at Batrish area of Kishoreganj pourashava recently. According to the report, a gang of armed dacoits numbering about 16 entered the house at about 7.30 pm and looted VCP and gold ornament amounting to about Taka 19,000 at daggers point. A case was registered with Kishoreganj police station under section No 395/397 BPC in this connection. The SP visited the spot.

BARISAL Bumper aman production this yr likely

Nov 6: Cultivation of transplanted aman in 66 thanas of eleven southern districts under Barisal Agriculture Zone exceeded to reach 34,629 hectares next year, reports BSS. According to an official source, 7,14,329 hectares have been brought under cultivation this year. The source added, bumper productions are expected in the districts this year as the weather was very favourable for the crop. Of the total, 1,13,070 hectares have been brought under cultivation in Barisal district, 69,694 hectares in Pirojpur, 45,635 hectares in Jhalakati, 1,98,400 hectares in Patuakhali, 1,01,151 hectares in Barguna, 1,51,366 hectares in Bhola, 6,922 hectares in Faridpur, 2,600 hectares in Madaripur, 1,471 hectares in Gopalganj, 18,094 hectares in Rajbari, and 5,925 hectares in Shariatpur districts.

PANCHAGARH One gets 5 yrs RI for violating minor girl

Nov 6: A young man was awarded five years rigorous imprisonment on charge of violating a minor girl, court sources said here Thursday, reports UNB. According to the prosecution, ten year old Chandra Banu Momena of Agantala in Boda thana of the district was taken to a village mela at Bostimari Barani by the accused Yusuf Ali of the same village and raped her on way back in March, 1991. The Mela authorities hearing the cry of the girl, rescued her and arranged treatment at the Boda hospital. Later a case was filed and police after investigation submitted charge sheet against the accused. The district Sub-judge and Assistant Sessions Judge after examining the witnesses and records delivered the judgement recently.

CHANDPUR Comprehensive plan taken up for uplift of roads

From Our Correspondent Nov 6: Government has undertaken a comprehensive scheme for the development of twelve roads in seven thanas of the district at a cost of Taka two crore and forty lakh. The roads are Chandpur-Comilla road, Nanupur-Hatmchar road, Purnabazar-Char Bhairabi road, Chandpur-Paridganj road, Baburhat-Maliab road, Mohamaya-Chotosunder road, Kalipara-Kachua road, Gouripur-Kachua road, Modafarganj-Hanabad road, Meherfarganj-Hanabad road, Doyabhang road, Chatkhil-Chitshe road and Haziganj-Ramganj road. It these schemes are implemented, the communication of the district will develop to a great extent. As a result about twenty lakh people of the district will directly benefited.

BARAHMANBARIA Boy killed in road mishap

Nov 6: A boy was killed in a road mishap Wednesday at Alampara near here on Brahmanbaria-Sylhet highway, reports UNB. According to witnesses, Shipon (9) of Suhilpur village in Sadar thana while crossing the road was hit by a running jeep (Ctg KA 8743). He died on the spot. Police seized the jeep but the driver managed to escape. The post-mortem of the body was performed at the Sadar hospital.

JAMALPUR Students rally over SSC exam system continues

Nov 6: Despite government's clarification over the SSC examination system students continued demonstrations in the town for the fifth day Wednesday, reports UNB. Hundreds of agitated students brought out processions and attacked a train at Jamalpur rail station badly damaging several doors and windows of rail compartments. The unruly protesters also damaged several vehicles in the town. The processionists chanted slogans demanding immediate resignation of the Education Minister. Another report from Jhenidah adds: A 48-hour strike called by the school students in the town was observed partially on Wednesday. The strike was called from Wednesday to protest the new marking system in the coming SSC examinations. A group of angry students damaged five vehicles in the town and brought out sporadic processions in the early hours of the day. Till 11 am all the educational and business establishments remained closed. A large number of vehicles were seen stranded out side the town. It is not known why the strike was called despite government assurance of no change in the examination system.

NETRAKONA TB patients increasing

Nov 6: Increasing incidence of tuberculosis has been reported in the district and the reason is attributed to lack of awareness among the rural people, reports UNB. Doctors said at least 10 patients are detected every year too late to be cured although tuberculosis is a curable disease if detected at an early stage. Moreover, the lone tuberculosis hospital in the district is plagued with various problems including lack of x-ray machine, necessary medicines and other equipment. Local leaders have urged the authorities to supply necessary apparatus and medicines to control the disease.

MEHERPUR Rival groups clash leaves one dead

Nov 6: One person was killed and two others injured in a clash over the ownership of a pond at Jolpur village in Sadar thana Monday, reports UNB. According to witnesses, while the victims Habib (30), Nuzu and Azrul were fishing in the disputed pond, the rival groups led by Fazal and Khodabok attacked and beat mercilessly. Habib died on the spot. The injured were rushed to the local hospital. Later, local people caught the murderers and handed over them to the police. A case has been filed in this connection.

GAIBANDHA Four Chinese rifles recovered

From Our Correspondent Nov 6: Sunderganj thana police recovered four Chinese rifles from a flood control embankment recently lying abandoned. Police could not arrest any person in this connection. According to police, a daring piracy was committed on the river Brahmaputra on October 7 in which pirates snatched away four rifles from the BDR personnel on patrol and looted goods and valuables worth about Taka two lakh from the passengers. The incident took place at Nageshwari Thana under Kurigram district.

BRAMHANBARIA Boy killed in road mishap

Nov 6: A boy was killed in a road mishap Wednesday at Alampara near here on Brahmanbaria-Sylhet highway, reports UNB. According to witnesses, Shipon (9) of Suhilpur village in Sadar thana while crossing the road was hit by a running jeep (Ctg KA 8743). He died on the spot. Police seized the jeep but the driver managed to escape. The post-mortem of the body was performed at the Sadar hospital.



MAULVIBAZAR: The members of Monipuri Cultural Parishad of the district brought out a procession demanding the protection of their history and culture recently. — Star photo

Diarrhoea kills 83, attacks 1000 in two districts

From Our Correspondent CHANDPUR, Nov 6: Diarrhoea claimed 65 lives in seven thanas of the district during the last one month. According to official sources, about six thousand people have been attacked by diarrhoea in different areas of the district. The badly affected areas are: Kadla, Debipur, Karai under Kachua thana, Ugoria, Jamta, Suchipara under Shahrastr thana, Ghonia, Deichar, Gohnagar, Kachipara, Lohagar, Chandra, Shekdi under Faridganj thana, Bahlu, Maisadi, Shahatali, Modhuroad, Akhaner Hat, Sri Ramdi under Sadar thana, Balakhal, Uarak, Joragar, Rampur, Mokimabad, Raferganj under Haziganj thana, Nilkamal, Gazipur, Asikati, under Halmchar thana. But unofficial sources claimed about eighty people died of diarrhoea and about eight thousand people have been attacked by the disease. According to official sources, a total of fifty-eight medical teams have been working in the affected areas to combat the disease. The disease has taken a serious turn due to lack of pure drinking water in the rural areas. About two hundred patients are being treated in ICDDR,B hospital, Matlab daily. Besides, two special camps have been opened at Haziganj and havedpur in Shiblaya thana and Babul Chandra (6) of Dankura in Satura thana. According to the doctors, scarcity of pure water and consumption of adulterated food are the main reasons behind the outbreak of the disease. New areas are being engulfed by the deadly disease with the passing of days. At least 2000 affected people have so far been admitted in different hospitals of the three thanas. Local leaders have urged the authorities to take immediate steps to combat the spread of the disease. Eight die of malaria UNB reports from Pabna says: Malaria claimed eight lives including three children and two women and attacked over 100 others in three thanas of the district during the last fortnight. Official sources, however, confirmed three deaths and 37 attacked by the diseases. The affected thanas are Sadar, Bera and Faridpur. Mosquito menace is greatly increased in the district which is the main cause of the diseases. Local people said that curative medicines of kalazar were out of the market. The dead were identified as Maniksan (30) of Daulatpur thana, Selina (51) of Mo-

500 women die of pregnancy, abortion complications every yr

BARGUNA, Nov 6: At least 500 women die of complications of pregnancy and abortion and 1500 women suffer from female diseases every year in the district, reports UNB. According to a survey conducted by a non-government organisation reveals that most abortion deaths were due to handling by untrained nurses. Usually, illiterate rural women conceive due to ignorance of family planning methods and they harm of their pregnancy after two or three months when surgical abortion is dangerous. But the untrained practitioners and nurses perform the operations for money. As a result, in most cases unwilling mothers die of excessive bleeding. Another report says: The number of divorces in the rural areas of the district has assumed an alarming proportion due to various reasons. According to a random survey conducted by some social welfare activists, more than 10,000 marriages were terminated during the last five years in six thanas of the district. Primary causes of divorce have been identified as dowry, poverty, polygamy and immoral activities. The poverty-stricken housewives are the worst victims. Due to non-registration of their marriages, they are not getting any protection from the law of the land. Meanwhile, it was alleged that the local marriage registrars demand higher fees which the poor guardians cannot afford to pay. Despite legal restrictions, many men marry several times particularly in remote areas without the written permission of the first wife. It is felt that the government should take stringent action against polygamist and ensure the registration of marriages at nominal fees so that the oppressed women could get legal action. Another report adds: The students and wayfarers have been suffering a lot for want of a bridge on Kholpatua Varani Canal at Jafrahali in Bamna thana. In the absence of a bridge on the canal, thousands of passers-by have to pass a long way with much inconveniences from Bamna thana to Patharghata via Davatala, Chalabhang and Kakchira. Some use a small ferry boat to cross the canal risking their lives. A bridge was built on the canal long ago which was destroyed by cyclone in the year 1965. Since then after repeated appeal from the local people no step has yet been taken to construct a bridge. The inhabitants of the area urged the authority concerned to construct a bridge on the canal without further delay.



NARAYANGANJ: Rtn Kazi Zahidul Islam receiving the best district Rotaract Award from Rtn Mostafa Zaman Abbasi at a function held here at local club auditorium recently. — Star photo

Notes from Brahmanbaria

From Our Correspondent BRAHMANBARIA, Nov 6: A seminar was held on pisciculture in Bangladesh at Nabnagar Government College auditorium of the district recently. Head of the Zoology Department of Dhaka University and President of Bangladesh Zoology Samity Dr Shahadat Ali attended in the seminar as main orator. The function was presided over by Principal of the College Prof. Surjakanta Das while Thana Nirbahi Officer Mohtuddin Ahmed was present as chief guest. It was addressed among others by Gumati Project Engineer Paolo and Prof Nazir Ahmed.

IPM field training concludes The Integrated Pest Management (IPM) field training was held at Natal (North) union of Sadar thana and Noagson of Saral thana of the district organised by Sadar thana agriculture office recently. Sadar Thana Agriculture Extension Officer Kazi Abdul Kader presided over the function while Deputy Director, Agriculture Extension Department M A Baker attended as chief guest. Among others, Subject Matter Specialist Anisuddin, Subject Matter Officer Ahasanul Hoque Chowdhury and Abul Hashem were also present at the function. About 50 farmers took part in the training programme. Subject Matter Officer of Akhaura thana Kabir Hossain conducted the training as integrated pest management field trainer.

Condolence meet held A condolence meeting was held here at Brahmanbaria Press Club in memory of Photo Journalist Khairul Alam of Dainik Samachar recently. The meeting was presided over by Senior Vice-President of the Press Club Munsur Kamal. Vice-President of the Press Club S M Sirajul Islam, Secretary Sadequr Rahman, Mohammad Arjo, Badal Goh, Manik Lal Banik, Kazi Mujibur Rahman and Monjurul Alam spoke at the function. The speakers demanded the judicial inquiry about the incident.

World Frugality Day observed World Frugality Day observed here recently. In observance of the day, a discussion meeting was held here organised by district National Savings Bureau. Deputy Commissioner Khairuddin Ahmed was present as chief guest at the function. It was presided over by Assistant General Manager, Sonali Bank while Additional Sessions Judge Shah Alam was present as special guest. Deputy Director, Family Planning M M Nowsar Ali, Regional Manager Krishi Bank Ali Akbar Majumder, President, Chamber and Commerce Fariduddin Ahmed, Headmaster, Ramkandi Academy Abdul Jalil and Dilara Harun.

Two killed in incidents JHENIDAH, Nov 6: Two persons were killed in Jhenidah on Tuesday in separate incidents, reports BSS. Abul Gafur Master (50), Assistant Headmaster of Jalalpur High School was allegedly slaughtered by miscreants when he was returning to his village home in Betal under Kotchandpur thana. Kaliganj police recovered the body of an ex-UP member Altaf Hussain (45) of village Fatla in Kaliganj thana. It was hanging to a tree near his house.

Essay contest, discussion mark youth day function COMILLA, Nov 6: The National Youth Day was observed here on November 1 through various functions organised by Youth Development Directorate, reports UNB. The functions included mini marathon, essay competition, discussion meeting and cultural show. The discussion meeting on 'Involvement of the youths in the national development' was held at the local town hall. Presided over by ADM Rezaul Karim, the meeting was addressed among others by Prof Amir Ali Choudhury, Principal Abdur Rouf and Zahurul Haq.

Jaundice spreading fast

From Our Correspondent SATKHIRA, Nov 6: Jaundice is spreading alarmingly in all the seven thanas of the district. The disease has taken a serious turn in the district town and adjacent areas as members of most of the families have been attacked by the disease. According to local doctors, primary symptoms of the disease are the yellowing of the urine, the eyes, nails and sometimes the whole body. The patients of jaundice may initially have temperature and headache and start feeling weak with vomiting tendency. A doctor told this correspondent that there is no need of any medicine for jaundice. The patients will have normal food, drink, boiled water and have complete rest. It may be fatal if treatment is not done in time, the doctor added. The patients suffering from jaundice are pouring to the chamber of doctors. The doctors are not prescribing any medicine but giving advice. The disappointed patients are taking shelter of the rural kabiraj (physician of herbal medicine). It is observed that people of all stages, even educated people have full faith on the herbal treatment of jaundice. Taking advantage of this opportunity, the kabiraj are earning huge money. A kabiraj said he received Taka 200 per patient for jaundice treatment. Hundreds of patients are being cured by their treatment, he added.

12000 cases lying pending

From Our Correspondent BOGRA, Nov 6: At least 12 thousand different types of cases are lying pending in the district for a long period. Due to accommodation problem, eight thana level civil courts out of eleven in the district could not be shifted, official sources said. Sources said that 12 thousand cases are lying pending both civil and criminal cases for about 20 years. In which out of the total, 7000 are criminal appeal cases, 1400 are criminal revision (motion) cases, 150 session cases, 70 Special Power Act cases, 40 special cases, 200 various criminal case, 2000 civil case (previous), 60 money suits, 50 eviction cases, 25 family cases, 16 election cases, one civil revision, 18 civil cases, 200 criminal various and 800 decree cases. There are one District and Sessions Judge, one Additional Judge two Sub Judges, four assistant judges and four magistrates. Justice Ansar Uddin of High Court Division of Bangladesh Supreme Court recently visited Bogra for inspection. This visit was held after 12 years.



BARISAL: A scene from the drama '1971' staged here recently by Kheali Group Theatre. — Star photo

Over 100 hurt in bloody rival clashes in Kushtia

KUSHTIA, Nov 6: Over one hundred people including several women were injured in bloody clashes between the rival villagers of five villages in Sadar thana of the district Monday, reports UNB. Witnesses said the clash ensued between the supporters of a group led by Alauddin and another group led by Harab Ali over the management of a hat and sharing of gambling money. The villagers of Ujangram, Gaznabipur, Bittipara, Bakhal and Sonadanga were involved in the rivalry. Both the groups used ram dao, spears, bamboo sticks, brickbats and other lethal weapons in the clash. Seriously injured seven people were admitted to Kushtia general hospital. Cases were filed from both the groups with the police. Another report adds: Bangladesh Rifles seized smuggled goods worth about Taka 8 crore from border areas in the district during the last eleven months. BDR Director General Maj Gen Anwar Hossain visited Kushtia and Mujibnagar Wednesday to see the progress of the on going anti-smuggling drive. He expressed satisfaction over the progress and achievement in the drive made by the BDR men. He was also informed that the BDR men in the bordering areas successfully foiled the attempt of pushing 370 people by Indian Border Security Force through Kushtia border. The BDR chief advised them to continue their efforts for making the border free from smuggling. He also visited the construction work of sector headquarters at Mirpur thana and expressed satisfaction over the progress of the work.

Public library facing fund shortage

From Our Correspondent SIRAJGANJ, Nov 6: The 110-year old building of Sirajganj Public Library is in a deplorable condition and way collapse at anytime causing harm to lives and property. It is gathered that big cracks have developed on the walls and roof of the age-old building. Rain water passes through these cracks damaging books and papers. Meanwhile, some valuable books of the library have been damaged by natural calamities. There are about 5000 valuable and rare books in the library. Due to fund constraints proper care of the books are absent. Hundreds of readers use to come to the library of read books and news papers everyday. Following rampant use of pond water, the villagers have been suffering from various diseases including diarrhoea. Meanwhile, seven persons died of the disease. While contacted, the Sub-Assistant Engineer of Kamar-khanda Public Health Engineering (PHE) Department informed that steps are underway to instal tubewells in the village.