

District roundup

JHENIDAH
One crushed under wheels of train

Nov 13: One person was crushed under the wheels of a running train at Borobazar Hat railway crossing in Kaliganj thana of the district Tuesday morning, reports UNB.
Witnesses said an unidentified man aged about 40 was crushed under the wheels of Goolando bound Nakshikantha train while crossing the gate. The rail gate was reportedly open at that time.
Local people alleged they found no gateman at the crossing for a long time. A case has been filed with the police.

SYLHET
Two schoolboy held with pipeguns

From Our Correspondent
Nov 13: Three pipeguns were recovered in two separate incidents of Sylhet on Tuesday.
According to an official source, one pipegun and one round of ammunition was found with two schoolboy in the Bhadeswar Nasiruddin High School of Golapganj thana on Tuesday morning went on a clash over a trifle matter. The teachers and students handed over Sheikh Jubayer Ahmed (16) and Shabbir (15) both of class ten to the police along with the pipegun and the ammunition. A case in this connection had been registered with the Golapganj thana.
In another incident, the Kotwali police of Sylhet recovered two pipeguns along with three rounds of ammunitions from the house of one Junayeduddin Chowdhury of Eidgah area of Sylhet town. On getting secret information, the police also arrested Mohsin 25, and Jameluddin Chowdhury 20, from the same house. A separate case has been registered.

NOAKHALI
Hospital beset with problems

Nov 13: Lakkhipur district General Hospital is beset with multifarious problems due to shortage of doctors and equipment, and lack of proper medicare facilities, reports UNB.
The hospital upgraded in 1984 has only 50 beds which is not sufficient for hundreds of patients who come from the four thanas of the district.
Nearly 400 patients come to the hospital for treatment everyday from the remote areas of the district. Many of them have to lie on the floor.
Patients are required to purchase medicine from the market at exorbitant prices.
There is no doctor for Skin, Medicine and Gynaec departments. Others are hardly available at the hospital during the duty hours.
Local leaders have urged the authorities to increase the number of beds in the hospital, appoint more doctors and supply adequate medicine to ensure better medicare for thousands of poor people.

CHUADANGA
Crushing of sugarcane begins

Nov 13: Crushing of sugarcane by the Darshana Sugar Mills began on November 6, reports BSS.
A function was held in this connection. Elderly farmer Abu Bakar of village Kurangachi under Damurhuda thana inaugurated the function.
Sugarcane growers of the area and workers and employees of the mill were present at the function.
A mill source said, about 15,000 metric tons of sugar are likely to be produced by crushing 1.75 lakh metric tons of sugarcane this year.

NETRAKONA
Release of Prof Golam Azam demanded

From Our Correspondent
Nov 13: The district unit of Jamaat-e-Islami organised a public meeting here on Tuesday demanding release of their leader Prof Golam Azam.
Chaired by Maulana Anamul Haque, district Amir of Jamaat, the meeting was addressed among others by Shahinul Islam. Later a procession was brought out parading the main thoroughfares of the town chanting various slogans in favour of their demands.

KUSHTIA
Law, order situation reviewed

Nov 13: A meeting of the district law and order committee was held here Monday with Deputy Commissioner in the chair, reports UNB.
The meeting reviewed the situation arising out of the arrest of 6 student leaders under anti-terrorism law.
The students of all educational institutions observed a half-day hartal Monday demanding immediate release of their leaders. The arrest was made following a clash between two rival groups of students of Kushtia Government College a few days back.
The meeting was addressed, among others, by district press club president SM. Kausar and Khondakar Rashiduzzaman, president of district Chamber of Commerce and Industries.
The meeting expressed the opinion that the number of crimes in the district have come down considerably and over all law and order situation of the district has improved following the passage of anti-terrorism bill at the Jatiya Sangsad.

SATKHIRA
One gets lifeterm for murdering father

Nov 13: A man has been sentenced to life imprisonment for murdering his father, court sources here said, reports UNB.
The court also fined the accused Taka 10,000 or in default to suffer one year rigorous imprisonment more.
The case, in brief, was that Shamsuddin of village Debnagar in Sadar thana killed his father three years back over a dispute on harvesting paddy from his father's land.
After examining the witnesses and records the Additional District Judge, First Court, awarded the punishment Monday.

BARISAL
Migratory birds start arriving

Nov 13: With the change in season migratory birds have started flocking to different rivers and water-bodies in the southern districts during the past few days, reports BSS.
Siberian ducks, sandi ducks, pankauri, pintail ducks, knight herons and others gathered in marshes and rivers of Barisal, Bhola, Patuakhali, Pirojpur and Barguna.
Arrivals were thin in the last few years because of the scarcity of food and of hunters' raids.

BRAHMANBARIA
Poet Matiul Islam lecture held

Nov 13: Poet Matiul Islam memorial lecture '92 organised by Brahmanbaria Shahitya Academy was held at the local Shilpakala Academy premises on November 5, reports BSS.
Presided over by former Minister Dr M Faridul Huda, the function was addressed among others by Messrs Shantanu Katsar, Mohammad Ashraf, Abul Kalam Eliyas, Dr Ahmed Al Mamun and Jaydul Hossain, General Secretary of the academy.
The speakers paid tributes to the late Poet Matiul Islam. The function was followed by a musical soiree.

MAGURA
Jail Killing Day observed

Nov 13: Jail Killing Day was observed here under the auspices of local unit of Bangladesh Awami League, reports UNB.
A Milad Mahfil and a discussion meeting were held at its office premises on November 3. Advocate Abul Khair presided over the meeting. Among others, Altaf Hossain, Rustam Ali, Baren Sikder, Shafiguzzaman spoke on the occasion.
The speakers called upon the party workers to work unitedly to force the government to scrap the terrorist law and the Indemnity Ordinance.
They also demanded trial of the killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and four national leaders who were killed in jail on November 3, 1975.



BOGRA: Central leader of Gonotantri Party and Member of the Parliament Suronjit Sen Gupta addressing at a meeting held here recently at Shahid Khokon Park. — Star photo

Shoals hinder navigation, dredging needed

From Our Correspondent
SIRAJGANJ, Nov 13: More than 5,000 small and big charlands (shoals) have been emerged in 135-miles long river route from Dolkhawa (Kurigram) to Douladia (Rajbari) hindering smooth navigation in the Brahmaputra, Jamuna and Padma bases.
It is gathered that in absence of minimum flow of flood water in the rivers, this year, emergence of charlands were found earlier than the previous years. Heavy siltation in the rivers meanwhile have caused hindrance in smooth playing of ferry boats including railway ferry in Sirajganj-Bahadurabad routes, goods and vehicles ferries in Sirajganj-Bhuapur, Aricha-Nagarbari-Douladia routes and launch services in Sirajganj-Bhuapur, Shohagpur-Bhuapur, Kazipur-Sirajganj, Enayetpur-Aricha, and Aricha-Douladia routes. The ferry boats are now taking double time to cross the river. Besides launch services in Nagarbari-Bahadur, Dhanganra-Nalka and other routes are also closed. Following abnormal fall of water level the IWTA have instructed the 5 feet draft boats to move with caution.
Due to emergence of charlands transportation of passengers and merchandised goods are hampered much. The oil tankers can not enter the Baghabari river port causing short supply of fuel and L.P gas in the northern districts. Fertilizers are not also easily unloaded at Baghabari. Fuel and fertilizers are primarily unloaded at Nagarbari ghat and then carried to the oil depots of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation by road causing higher cost of transport. By this time, fuel and L.P gas crisis persists in the northern districts including Rangpur and Dinajpur.
The IWTA have started dredging in Aricha-Nagarbari-Douladia routes but positive results are to be achieved yet.
Another report adds: A vast area including villages Ajugara, Goprekhi, Gopalpur in Belkuchi, Kharamgram, Enayetpur, Malpara in Chowhali Rupnai, Khukni in Shahzadpur thanas remain out of telecom facilities. and thousands of people of the said villages are still in extreme darkness even in this age of development.
It is gathered that the aforesaid villages consists of handloom factories. There are important business centres. The telephone exchanges of Belkuchi, Chowhali and Shahzadpur are far away from those villages. The only telephone set in Gopalpur village can not serve the minimum purpose of the locality. If needed, the people of the area are to attend any telephone exchange to communicate with other districts which is much troublesome.
Local people have told this correspondent that there is a demand of about 250 telephone sets for the area. Belkuchi, Chowhali and Shahzadpur exchanges together have no capacity to extend connections any more.
Knowledgeable sources have opined to set up a new telephone exchange in the middle place preferably at Gopalpur village so that the Government may earn a considerable amount of revenue from this sector.



NARAYANGANJ: The artistes of Dipta Sangskritik Sheelpi Gosti rendering songs in observance of 'Sharath evening' held here at Shahid Zia hall auditorium recently. — Star photo

Jute output decreasing alarmingly

From Our Correspondent
BARISAL, Nov 13: Production of one of the important foreign currency earners jute is decreasing alarmingly.
According to the economic survey report of the country during '88-'89 it is revealed that jute growers as a whole are being reluctant in growing jute due to absence of necessary marketing facilities and non-receiving of proper price of their production.
It is also revealed in the survey report that where 2,614 thousand acres of land were brought under jute cultivation in 1985-86, in 1988-89 only 1,342 thousand acres of land have been brought under jute cultivation. It means production of jute only 3.30 bales per acre.
Informed sources said that the main reasons of declining of jute production particularly because of production of other foodstuff as paddy or vegetables are more profitable than jute. Moreover, with the increase of population production of food being more necessary than other things.
Another report says: A kind of crops widely known as 'Dhanshi' largely produced particularly in different char areas of Borguna district.
It is learnt, that this rice like Dhanshi crop saved lives of thousands of poor people of Borguna district during the famine of 1974. Non it is an alternative to rice for the poor people of this district.
It is also learnt that at least 20 thousand maunds of 'Dhanshi' is being collected annually from different char areas of Borguna.
It can be said that about 75 per cent poor people of the vast coastal areas of this district are dependent on this crop Dhanshi.
Informed sources said that government should take necessary steps for the better and more production of 'Dhanshi' as an alternative of rice which may be used largely by the poor people of the southern region of the country. 'Dhanshi' largely produced automatically in about 3 thousand acres of land along the seashore of the Bay of Bengal.

Virus fever spreading fast

NETRAKONA, Nov 13: Virus fever has broke out in an alarming form in different parts of the district especially in the town adversely affecting the resistance power of the body, reports UNB.
Symptoms of the fever are high temperature, spasmodic pain, headache, sore throat, cough and sore eyes, said local physicians.
The patients suffer for one or two weeks. No effective medicine has been found for this type of fever. But antibiotics and anti-allergic drugs are generally prescribed in the case of high fever, they added.
These drugs, they said, further diminish resistance power of the body.
Doctors prescribe chicken soup with boiled vegetables and fruit juices to build resistance power of the body which are beyond the capacity of the poor people, affected people said.
BSS report adds: Bangladesh Agriculture Extension Department, Barisal zone has taken up a comprehensive programme to cultivate winter crops on 3,26,288 hectares in eleven southern district this year.
The districts are: Barisal, Jhalakathi, Bhola, Pirojpur, Patuakhali, Barguna, Faridpur, Madaripur, Rajbari, Gopalganj, and Shariatpur.
Of the total, 226,425 hectares are being brought under the boro cultivation, 58,560 hectares under wheat cultivation, 6,005 hectares under potato cultivation and 35,298 hectares under mustard cultivation.
According to an official source, 8,26,476 metric ton of boro-paddy, 1,17,120 metric tons of wheat, 60,050 metric tons of potato and 1,28,303 metric tons of mustard are expected to be produced in these districts this year.

Notes from Kishoreganj

From Our Correspondent
KISHOREGANJ, Nov 13: Employees and workers of district branch of T&T Board staged a protest meeting against government move to privatise the T&T Board on October 11 last.
The meeting was held at the Kishoreganj district T&T Board premises with Pradip Kumar Bishnu in the chair.
Speakers at the meeting expressed the employees and workers determination to foil any attempt to denationalise telecommunication.
The meeting was addressed among others by Rafiqul Islam, Nurul Islam Chowdhury, Rezaul Karim Laisudin, Abdul Latif and Abdus Salam.
Minor girl commits suicide
One Nurasa Begum (11) daughter of Abdus Sobhan of village Banati under Rajbari union in Nandail thana committed suicide by hanging herself from a tree near of her house recently. The cause behind the suicide could not be ascertained.
Police later recover the body and sent to Kishoreganj Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy.
An unnatural death case was registered with the local police station in this connection.

One electrocuted

An elderly man was electrocuted at village Dhankura in Hossainpur thana of the district recently.
The victim alongwith his nephew while fishing in a beel came in touch with a live electric wire. He died on the spot.
A UD case was registered with the local police station in this connection.

JP unit confce held

The biennial conference of Jatiya Party Katiadi thana unit was held at local Chabighar cinema hall recently.
The conference was presided over by Md. Hialuddin Bhuiyan and addressed among others by Md. Matur Rahman Khan, Advocate Nurul Islam, Nasiruddin Shajahan, Mujibur Rahman Beal, Advocate Tarakuddin Ahmed Abed and local leaders.
Later, a 51-member executive committee headed by Advocate Salimuddin as president and Abdul Wasek Chumnu as general secretary was also formed in the conference.

Snake bites one, dies

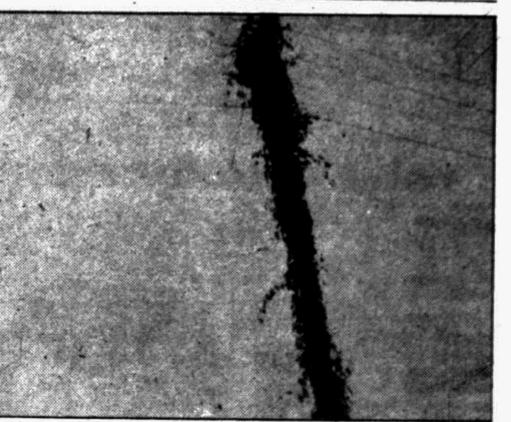
Ahmed Ali (45) of village Nowri under Nandail thana and Abdus Salam (25) of village Dashed in the same thana of Mymensingh district were bitten by poisonous snake recently in their houses.
Theft committed
A theft was committed in the Newtown Govt Primary School of Kishoreganj pourashava in Sadar thana recently.
The thieves entered into the school by braking door and lock of the school latrine and decamped goods amounting to Taka 2142.
A case has been registered with the local police in this connection. No one has been arrested so far.

One gets 10-yr RI for possessing illegal arms

COMILLA, Nov 13: A young man was awarded 10 years rigorous imprisonment for possessing illegal arms by the Additional and Sessions Judge of the district on November 2, reports UNB.
The accused Syed Ahmed son of Matur Rahman of village Yusufpur in Daudkandi thana of the district was convicted for unauthorised possession of a pistol.
The pistol was recovered by police on August 10 last year when police raided his house on the basis of a secret information.

Four motor cycle riders killed in road mishaps

From Our correspondent
COMILLA, Nov 13: Two motor cycle riders were killed when their bike collided with a speeding truck on Dhaka-Chittagong Highway at Saharpur near Chandina police station recently.
The victims were identified as Md Abdul Mannan (40) and Amir Hossain (35).
A case was filed with Chandina police in this connection.
UNB report from Dinajpur adds: Two motor cycle riders were killed when their bike collided with a speeding minibus near Nashipur firm, 15 kilometer off the town on Monday.
Hospital sources said Khademul Islam (24) son of Asiruddin owner of Sonali Huskin Mill and Mill Manager Mokbul Hossain Mukul while returning from Ramdubi Hat at about 6 pm were hit by the speeding mini bus killing Khademul on the spot. Makbul died on the way to hospital. The motor bike was also smashed in the accident.
The bodies were sent to morgue for autopsy and a case has been filed with the police.
Another message from Brahmanbaria adds: A madrasa teacher was crushed under the wheels of a speeding bus near Bhisra road crossing of the town Tuesday morning.
Police said Farid Hossain (25), teacher of Bariura Madrasa of Sadar thana of the district while crossing the road was run over by a bus coming from Madhabpur. A case has been filed with the police.



SYLHET: An electric pole on the distribution line of PDB near Hetimganj Bazar which is covered with weeds. There is none to take care of it. — Star photo

Cottage industry needs proper patronisation

From Our Correspondent
SATKHIRA, Nov 13: Cottage industry in the district is on the verge of ruin for want of proper patronisation.
Export of handicrafts can bring a huge amount of foreign currencies. Unfortunately, lack of interest and funding make this profession uncertain.
It is learnt that women at their leisure time keep themselves busy in making such goods like decorated jute bags and texture locally known as 'Chhikas' which have a great demand in foreign markets.
Proper training and funding can further develop skill they need. Businessmen who are making money out of selling such handicrafts abroad never look upon these skilled workers.
Although, these products are available throughout the country, the handicrafts workers are almost neglected.
Other products include baskets, nylon ropes, handfans and mats.
If these skilled craftsmen of the district are not given proper attention the beautiful pieces of products could soon be vanished.

People urged to work for economic emancipation

DINAJPUR, Nov 13: A discussion organised by Bangladesh National Party, Dinajpur district branch was held on November 7 in observance of the National Revolution and Solidarity Day, reports BSS.
Presided over by Advocate Atinul Bari, the discussion meeting was addressed by State Minister for Communications Md Fazlur Rahman Patal.

Govt deprived of lakhs of taka registration fee

From Our Correspondent
KURIGRAM, Nov 13: The government is being deprived of several lakhs of taka as registration fees in five districts of greater Rangpur zone including Kurigram, Lalmonirhat, Rangpur, Gaibandha and Nilphamari every year due to under valuation of property at the time of transfer in the registration and sub-registration offices of the areas.
The registrar, sub-registrar and their office staff in collaboration with deed-writers are fixing up valuation less than actual price cost of the property to be transferred through registered deeds, it is learnt.
Half of the amount deducted from the real value is taken as bribe and distributed among the corrupt office staff and deed writers according to an unwritten agreement and half of the rest amount goes to the purchaser of the property, it is further learnt.
Besides, the corrupt circle is extorting excess fees in the name of registration violating the existing rules in this regard. The illiterate people become the victims of the corrupt circle.



A VILLAGE HAT: A place where villagers assemble to buy and sell goods. Most of the hats have no shed for which the villagers suffer much. — Star photo