

District roundup

NARAIL
Power supply disrupted
 Nov 14: Power supply has been disrupted in the district head quarters for the last three nights, reports UNB. Cut off in the evening of November 9, power was restored partially late night but off again for the entire period of the subsequent two nights. The town plunged into darkness and shops, business houses and different workshops and irrigation pumps remained shut. The Resident Engineer's Office told UNB that suspension of power transmission from the Jessore grid caused the major dislocation in the district. Other sources said there was a major fault in the transmission line.

COMILLA
Five to suffer 2 yrs RI for smuggling
 Nov 14: Five persons including 2 women have been awarded 2 years rigorous imprisonment each with fine for smuggling, reports UNB. The convicts were Mahbul Hasan, Saufia, Zahura, Ali Azam and Abdus Sattar. Muradnagar thana police rounded up the accused persons from the house of Habibur Rahman on August 21, 1991 and seized 60 pieces of Indian sarees worth Taka 18,000 from their possession. All the accused were from bordering villages of Tetabuhum and Bardusia in Brahmanpara thana. They had taken shelter in the house on way to Dhaka in a boat. After the examining the witnesses and records Additional Sessions Judge Md Modabbir Hossain delivered the judgement on November 4.

JHALAKATHI
Hat smarts manifold problems
 Nov 14: Nachan Mohal Hat, one of the biggest trading centres of Naichiti thana in the district has been facing manifold problems, reports UNB. During the last few years the hat has not been extended to accommodate the growing number of buyers and sellers. The lanes needed to be developed, new sheds erected and old one needed repair. There is no arrangement for garbage clearance, no drainage system, the lanes of the market get muddy even after a shower of rain. Traders and businessmen have demanded proper development of the hat which is a very busy and important commercial centre in the area.

LALMONIRHAT
Rly Karmachari Parishad announces action programmes
 Nov 14: The local Railway Sramik Karmachari Sangram Parishad at a rally here on Monday announced action programmes to press home their demands, reports UNB. The programmes include observance of a token strike by suspending rail communications from dawn to dusk on November 24 and mass contact programme with different political and professional groups. Held at the divisional railway bhavan premises, the speakers demanded the inclusion of rail track on the proposed Jamuna multi-purpose bridge, formulation of expansion policy in railway sector, halting of selling railway property and stopping retrenchment of its workers. The speakers warned that a greater movement would be launched if their demands were not fulfilled.

MAGURA
Miscreants kill one
 Nov 14: One person was killed by some unknown miscreants at the Boalmari thana in the district recently, reports UNB. The victim was identified as Maulana Mohammad Monir Ahmed (55), Imam of Rajapur mosque. Police sources said a group of miscreants attacked him while he was returning home from the mosque after offering Esha prayer. His body was recovered from nearby Kumar river. Police arrested his daughter Fatema Khatun (25), suspecting of her involvement with the murder. A case has been filed with the local police and Fatema was sent to jail.

TANGAIL
Programmes taken up to mark Bhasani's death anniversary
 Nov 14: A five-day programme to mark the 16th death anniversary of Maulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani began Friday last at Shantosh Islamic University premises, reports BSS. The programme includes opening of 'Maulana Bhasani Museum' at Shantosh, a handicraft exhibition, a workshop and seminar on 'Maulana Bhasani as a patron of education.' The workshop and seminar will be participated by eminent scholars and intellectuals of the country. Besides, milad mahfil, qurankhani and feeding of the poor will be held on the occasion. Cultural functions will be held everyday at the Islamic University premises in observance of the death anniversary of the great leader. Different socio-cultural and political organisations have taken up programmes to mark the occasion.

MYMENSINGH
BAU teachers, students friendly debate held
 Nov 14: An attractive friendly debate between the teachers and students of Bangladesh Agricultural University was held at the Zainul Abedin auditorium, reports UNB. Organised by the BAU central students' union on November 5 the proposition of the debate was 'it is the teachers and not the student who can play the prime role in eradicating campus terrorism'. The student spoke for and the teachers against the proposition. Presided over by the Vice President of students' union Saidduzzaman Kamal it was attended by Prof Z H Bhuiyan and M Mahfuzur Rahman as chief and special guests. The lively debate was attended by a large number of students and teachers which was conducted by the literary secretary of the students' union A E M Quayum Prohan. Another message adds: A colourful international evening, participated by a large number of foreign students of the university and Mymensingh Medical College, was held at the faculty of Agricultural Economics gallery on the same day. Sponsored by the Agri Varsity Rotaract Club, the function was attended by the Student's Affairs Advisor Prof M R H Bhuiyan as the chief guest and Rtn Firozuddin Ahmed, Rtn A H M Khalequzzaman and Rtn A F Rahman as special guests. Presided over the club president Rtn N K Datta it was addressed by students from Malaysia, Somalia, India, Nepal and Bhutan. The formal thanks giving was offered by the JIP of the club Rtn A K Biswas.

NARSINGDI
Goods train derailment snaps comm for 6 hrs
 Nov 14: A goods train derailed here Wednesday last disrupting rail communications for about six hours, reports UNB. Three bogies of the Cantonment Goods Special Train, bound for Dhaka from Chittagong, skidded off the track at Khanabari Railway Station at about 9:45 am, witnesses said. As a result, train movement on Dhaka-Chittagong, Dhaka-Sylhet, Dhaka-Noakhali and Dhaka-Mymensingh lines halted till 4 pm. Later, all the lines were cleared for trains after a Relief Train rushed to spot from Dhaka and salvaged the derailed bogies.

SATKHIRA
One held for alleged involvement in cheating
 Nov 14: Police arrested a man from a local hotel here Wednesday for his alleged involvement in cheating, reports UNB. The nabbed person was identified as Shahjahan Shahabaj of Kayra thana of Khulna district. It was learnt that Shahabaj, who lived at Jatrabari of Dhaka, went into hiding in Satkhira after cheating about taka 5 lakh from many people of the area. A case was filed with the police in this connection and he was sent to Satkhira jail.



PLAYERS OF FOOTPATH: What else can they do anyway? — Star photo

Road accidents take six lives in four dists

BOGRA, Nov 14: At least four people, including two children and one woman, were killed in two road accidents here Tuesday night, reports UNB. A Nagorbari-bound truck knocked a pushcart on the Bogra-Shantahar highway while it was carrying two children killing all three. Puller of the pushcart Yasin Ali (35), Mintu (10) and Sufia (7) died instantly. The truck was halted by the local people and handed to police. A case was lodged in this connection. In another accident, Sairon Bibi (55) was crushed under the wheels of a Bogra-bound bus from Dhaka on the same highway when she was crossing the road. UNB report from Gazipur says: Workers of Olympia Textile Mills went on rampage damaging vehicles and blocking the Dhaka-Mymensingh highway for more than three hours here Wednesday after an employee died when he was knocked down by a truck. Witnesses said Abdul Baten (55), a dying master of the mill, died on the spot as a Mymensingh bound truck from Dhaka hit him from behind in front of the mill at Tongi this morning. Hearing the death news, workers of the mills and some local people damaged half a dozen vehicles on the highway and blocked the traffic for more than three hours until police intervened at about 12:40 pm. Police sent the body to Gazipur Sadar Hospital for post-mortem. The driver fled the scene with the truck immediately after the accident. Another report from Magura says: One person was killed and 6 others injured in a bus accident on Magura-Fardpur road near Kanaipur recently. Police sources said the accident occurred when a passenger bus hit a rickshaw carrying one Shamal Kumar Shaha

(27) and Abdur Rashid while they were returning home. Shamal Kumar died on the spot. Seriously injured Abdur Rashid (24) and Rickshaw puller Harun Ali (60) admitted to sadar hospital. The other persons were released after giving first aid. The driver and the helper of the bus managed to flee. Another report from Satkhira adds: A woman rickshaw passenger was killed after being hit by a mini bus here on Tuesday. The victim was identified as Jahura Khatun (55), wife of Abu Baker of Burigolani village in Shyamnagar thana. She was seriously injured when a speeding mini bus dashed her rickshaw from behind on Satkhira-Khulna road. She was rushed to hospital where she succumbed to her injury. Police arrested the driver and seized the bus. A case was filed with the police in this connection.

Tk 4 crore smuggled goods seized in Chuadanga, Meherpur

CHUADANGA, Nov 14: Smuggled goods worth about Taka 4 crores were seized from the different border areas of Chuadanga and Meherpur district by the BDR personnel of 13 BDR Battalion from January to September of the current year. The smuggled goods were seized while being smuggled into the country and out of the country. The seized goods which were being smuggled into the country were Indian cattle, buffalos, saree, blouse piece, cloth, sugar, salt, phenyl, bicycle etc and goods being smuggled out of the country were lovely cloth, VCP, hilsha fish, tama, kasha and pitl) etc. It may be noted here that vigorous anti-smuggling drive have been started though out the district specially along the border areas of Chuadanga district recently. The learned Additional District and Sessions Judge Chuadanga, Azizul Hoque on Saturday last convicted one Jahangir Alam son of Azizul Hoque of village Gabtolipara of Kotchandpur thana under Jhenidah district and sentenced life-term for killing his father-in-law Shahadat Hossain of village Artirachak of Chuadanga Sadar thana for dowry. The said accused Jahangir Alam was tried in absentia as he had been hiding to escape arrest since the killing of his father-in-law on 21.2.90. The accused Jahangir was also fined Taka 5000 and in default to suffer another one year of imprisonment. The prosecution case in brief is that the said convicted accused Jahangir Alam has been pressing her wife Kulsum for bringing dowry money from her father i.e. from the father-in-law of the convicted accused Zahangir Alam since her marriage and failure embittered her conjugal life as a result Kulsum was residing along with his father. On the night of occurrence on 21.2.90, accused Zahangir Alam came at the residence of the victim Shahadat Hossain and demanded dowry Taka 2000 to him. The victim failed to pay dowry to his son-in-law when accused Zahangir Alam tried to take her wife Kulsum away forcefully from the residence of the victim. The victim obstructed his son-in-law to take his daughter away forcefully as a result being angry accused Zahangir Alam stabbed his father-in-law to death on the spot. A case was started with the Chuadanga police station in this connection. Police submitted charge sheet against the convicted accused Zahangir Alam after proper investigation. The learned court examined 15 witnesses. After examining the witnesses and records of the case the learned court convicted the accused and awarded aforesaid punishment to him.

PATUAKHALI, Nov 14: The price of sugar and baby food has gone up in the district, reports UNB. It is reported that per kilogram sugar is being sold at Taka 35 and milk powder (big size) is being sold at Taka 340 to the thana markets of the district. **Boat dacoity committed** A daring dacoity was committed in an engine boat near Dolabazar of Chhatak thana under Sunamganj district recently. Two passengers were also injured in the hands of the miscreants. According to the reports, a gang of armed dacoits boarded on the engine boat carrying passengers and swooped on them. The boat was on its way to Barakut having started from Govindganj bazar ghat at about 10 am in the night. The dacoits took away all the belongings of boat passengers, it is reported. A case in this connection had already been registered with the police station. But no action has yet been reported. **Youngman meets unnatural death** A youngman met the end of his unnatural death at village Islampur under Gowainghat thana recently. According to the reports, the victim Abdur Rahim (23) entered into a mosque at about 11 am on the day of incident and began imbalanced talks and behaviour. The local people then called a Doctor who declared him dead after some time. He opined that the victim might have taken some poisonous thing. After registration of a case of unnatural death, post-mortem on the body was performed at the Sylhet MAG Osmany Medical College Hospital on the next day. **Body exhumed for autopsy** The body of a seven-month child was exhumed from grave for performing post-mortem on it following the registration of a case of unnatural death in Jagannathpur thana of Sunamganj district recently. According to the reports, the victim, son of one Abdus Sobhan who lives in England died unnaturally a few days back. Accordingly, he was buried in the village graveyard. But the mother of the child registered a case with the police station in this connection. Later, the police exhumed the body in presence of a first class Magistrate and sent it to the Sunamganj Sadar Hospital for post-mortem.



NARAYANGANJ: The district unit of Diploma Engineers Institute organised a demonstration in front of the DC office recently protesting anti-people charter engineers' black law. — Star photo

Rash driving, overloading cause often road mishaps

From Our Correspondent
KISHOREGANJ, Nov 14: Journey by bus and mini-bus on different routes in Kishoreganj district has become hazardous due to overloading and rash driving. Hundreds of passengers travelling everyday on these routes have been facing immense inconveniences due to lack of proper amenities. In recent days, many road accidents occurred on these routes. Over loading of vehicles and rash driving on the roads by the drivers have become a regular feature in the district which causing frequent road accidents. Whenever a bus or mini-bus stops, passengers get in the vehicle and they are even allowed to sit on the roof of the bus and to stand on the bumper or on the foot board. Besides, passenger buses used to carry a huge quantity of goods on the roofs. The motor vehicles association have little control over the situation and the buses or mini-buses are driven at the whims of drivers resulting in the road accidents every now and then. It is also found that most of the buses and mini-buses on these routes are engaged in competition to pick up passengers without considering the seat capacity of the vehicles. It is also observed that the drivers of the over-crowded buses and mini-buses have indulged themselves in over taking other buses playing on the road at a maximum speed and are very often involved in fatal road mishaps. It may be mentioned here that black smoke emitting from vehicles freely on the roads causing health hazard and the disturbing sounds of horns of vehicles also causing much annoyance to the public. Immediate action is needed to be taken to arrest the situation, local leaders and passengers said.

15 persons hurt as rival groups clash

NARSINGDI, Nov 14: At least five student activists of the ruling party were injured in intra-party clash at Shibpur Wednesday last witnesses said, reports UNB. Of the injured, thana united President of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal Kawsar Shaikh (22) and Khokon (20) were admitted into local Health Complex. The condition of Kawsar was stated critical. The clash occurred between two factions of JCD of local unit following a rivalry for the post of President in a conference held on Tuesday. Kawsar was said to have been elected President through direct voting by the delegates of the conference. The clash ensued Wednesday at 10 am after supporters of Mahub, who could not accept the election results, allegedly attacked the Kawsar group. They chased and counter-chased each other with stones, knives, daos and ramaos, and the clash continued till 1 pm. Tension was still prevailing in the area. Another UNB report from Narayanganj adds: At least 10 people were injured as two arch rival groups of Adamjee Jute Mill workers resumed fighting with guns and bombs Wednesday night. One of the injured, Billal (20), got bullet in the violent clash between Kashem and Rehan groups. He was rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital, witnesses said. Police fired several rounds of rubber bullet to control the situation, sources said. They picked up at least 30 from the scenes till 11 pm. Henchmen of Kashem and Rehan reportedly hurled bombs at each other in Sumilpara, Alipara, New Colony, SO Road, Mollaid and Kadamtali areas for about three hours since 7:30 pm. Bombs were also lobbed at police at Sumilpara, hurting police. Police recovered abandoned 120 live cocktails from Kadamtali area in the afternoon.



CHANDPUR: Ankur Kachi Kacher mela brought out a procession in observance of 36th founding anniversary of Central Kachi Kacher Mela recently. — Star photo

Water level fall, shoals disrupt ferry services

MANIKGANJ, Nov 14: Ferry services between Mawa and Char Janjat route remained disrupted for the last few days as the mighty river Padma lost its navigability here due to abnormal fall in water level and reappearance of shoals, reports UNB. traders, some local hotel and shop keepers and people related with trading, made the place a gambling den. The anti-social elements stay there till late hours of the night plying cards, gambling and drinking wine and smoking ganja. BIWC officials said Wednesday that over 400 shoals emerged at the areas during the recent days disrupting riverine communication of 17 south-western districts with the capital and forcing the passengers to travel by boat. Boat journey, they said, has also become risky following frequent piracy in the river routes. At least 20 dacoities were committed in the route during the last week, they added. Our Correspondent adds: The anti-social people are active in Aricha ferry ghat of the district. It is reported that there are grown about 500 hotel, restaurants, shops and some fish buying centres at the ghat. At least 80 to 100 launch and 60 to 70 mechanised boats carry goods and passengers to various destinations from the ghat. Fish traders from distant areas come here in connection with fish trading. But it is alleged that with the growing of a travelling expenses and trading centre, the place has turned into a centre of anti-social activities. According to reports, Officially said the number of armed Rohingyas was the highest in this camp and that the district administration was making hectic efforts to net them. The refugees reportedly boycotted food of the feeding centre run by the International Islamic Relief Organisation (IIRO) at Shalderdaba camp in Ukhya thana Wednesday. They also didn't take medicare facilities of the hospital in the camp run by IIRO on Tuesday. Some of them took medicare Wednesday. Meanwhile, BDR deployed in the Shalderdaba camp Tuesday was withdrawn this morning but additional armed police are still on guard.

Notes from Sylhet

From Our Correspondent
SYLHET, Nov 14: A daring theft was committed in the residence of Thana Health and Family Planning Officer of Beambazar thana under Sylhet district recently. The miscreants entered into the house by breaking open the door and took away a coloured Television, VCP, 3-in-one, gold ornament, money-in-cash and other valuables worth about Taka ninety thousand from the house. A case in this connection had been registered with the thana by Thana Health and Family Planning Officer. Police took the Night guard of the Health Complex into custody, suspecting his complicity with the matter. **Smuggled Indian goods recovered** Indian smuggled sugar worth about Taka two and a half lakh were recovered by the BDR personnel from a village in Jaintapur thana of Sylhet district. According to the report, on getting informations, a contingent of BDR from the 36 Battalion alongwith a Magistrate went to three house of village Haripur and recovered the sugar. But none could be arrested, said the source. The sized sugar had already been handed over to the Customs Department. A case was also started with the Jaintapur thana. **Boat dacoity committed** A daring dacoity was committed in an engine boat near Dolabazar of Chhatak thana under Sunamganj district recently. Two passengers were also injured in the hands of the miscreants. According to the reports, a gang of armed dacoits boarded on the engine boat carrying passengers and swooped on them. The boat was on its way to Barakut having started from Govindganj bazar ghat at about 10 am in the night. The dacoits took away all the belongings of boat passengers, it is reported. A case in this connection had already been registered with the police station. But no action has yet been reported. **Youngman meets unnatural death** A youngman met the end of his unnatural death at village Islampur under Gowainghat thana recently. According to the reports, the victim Abdur Rahim (23) entered into a mosque at about 11 am on the day of incident and began imbalanced talks and behaviour. The local people then called a Doctor who declared him dead after some time. He opined that the victim might have taken some poisonous thing. After registration of a case of unnatural death, post-mortem on the body was performed at the Sylhet MAG Osmany Medical College Hospital on the next day. **Body exhumed for autopsy** The body of a seven-month child was exhumed from grave for performing post-mortem on it following the registration of a case of unnatural death in Jagannathpur thana of Sunamganj district recently. According to the reports, the victim, son of one Abdus Sobhan who lives in England died unnaturally a few days back. Accordingly, he was buried in the village graveyard. But the mother of the child registered a case with the police station in this connection. Later, the police exhumed the body in presence of a first class Magistrate and sent it to the Sunamganj Sadar Hospital for post-mortem.