

District roundup

KURIGRAM
Minor school girl violated

From Our Correspondent
Nov 16: A minor school girl aged 13 was allegedly violated by five youngsters at village Sobandaha in Ghogadaha union of Kurigram Sadar thana recently.
It is learnt that while Swapna Rani Sarker (13), daughter of one Dinesh Chandra Sarker was returning home from school, the culprits had called her inside a vacant house, where she was raped one after another. As a result, she became unconscious and was bleeding profusely.
A case was started in this connection with Kurigram thana. None was arrested so far.
It may be mentioned that a group of naughty young boys is always found assembled near local girls school and women's college. They tease the girls students off and on and make filthy remarks while coming to and going back from their respective institutions.

BARISAL
Solidarity Day celebrated

Nov 16: The National Revolution and Solidarity Day was observed throughout Barisal district on Saturday in a befitting manner. Government, socio-cultural organizations and political parties took up programmes to mark the day. The programmes included milad mahfil, discussion and fancy foot-ball match, reports BSS.
The day was official holiday. National flags were hoisted atop private and public buildings.
Special prayers were offered in mosques, temples and churches.

NAOGAON
All party students unit meet held

Nov 16: A meeting of the local unit of 'All party students organisation' was held at the Naogaon government college auditorium Thursday, reports UNB.
The meeting discussed several major problems of the college. They urged the concerned authorities to solve their conveyance, hostel, classroom and teacher-shortage problems.
Construction of boundary walls and opening of the honours course were also demanded at the meeting.
They said shortage of classrooms and teachers for a long time has been adversely affecting the education in the college. They also said in spite of repeated appeal, no step has yet been taken by the authority in this regard.
Bivas Majumdar, VP of the students' union presided over the meeting.

SATKHIRA
Miscecreants kidnap girl, rape

Nov 16: A young girl was kidnapped and raped by some miscreants at Sishu Hospital compound here on Friday night, reports UNB.
The victim Jahanara (20) of Khulna on way to her relations' house was waiting for a bus after sundown at Narikelta bus stand in Satkhira. Some miscreants abducted her to the hospital compound and forcibly violated her one after another.
Following morning Jahanara was recovered in a critical condition as she was bleeding profusely and was rushed to the district hospital.
Police arrested sweeper of Sishu Hospital Jahura Khatun suspecting her involvement with the incident. A case has been filed with the local police.

NARAIL
One killed by Sarbahara Party activists

Nov 16: One person was killed by some suspected Sarbahara Party activists on Friday night, reports UNB.
The victim Mahabbat Hossain (25) of Arpara village in Sadar thana while returning home from the district headquarters was attacked by the miscreants. They stabbed him indiscriminately killing him on the spot near village Barakula.
The reason behind the killing could not be known immediately. The body was sent to morgue for autopsy.
A case has been filed with the police.

FENI
Sher-e-Bangla's birth anniversary observed

Nov 16: The 119th birth anniversary of the great leader Sher-e-Bangla A K Fazlul Haque was observed here with due respect and solemnity, reports UNB.
A discussion meeting was held at the local press club auditorium under the auspices of Islamic Foundation of Feni branch on November 4.
Deputy Commissioner of the district was present as the chief guest.
Paying tribute to the great leader, the speakers said Sher-e-Bangla was not only a politician but also a real friend of the peasants.
The goal of his politics was to provide food and clothes for the farmers, they added.
They also urged the present politicians to follow the ideals of Sher-e-Bangla for the betterment of the common people of the country.
Among others who spoke at the function are: Rafiqur Rahman Bhuiya, teacher of Feni Government College, Nurul Karim Mojumder, Abul Kashem Majumder, Assistant Director Islamic Foundation, Feni; Mofassarul Haque Khanaker, Editor of Feni Sangbad and Jahanara Begum, Secretary of Feni Press Club. The meeting was presided over by Mahbubul Haque Pyara.

RANGAMATI
Son kills mother

Nov 16: A young man killed his mother at village Kabiraj at Kalapakuzza union in Langadu thana of the district on Friday, reports UNB.
According to police sources, Sohrab (27) attacked the Kabiraj Rabiul (40) who was administering him herbal treatment, for insanity and the mother who was helping the Kabiraj. Both the Kabiraj and the mother died on the spot.
Soon after the incident local police arrested Sohrab and his father Ayub Ali. Sohrab was stated to be suffering from senility for long.
The bodies were sent to Rangamati-Sadar Hospital for autopsy.

TANGAIL
Body recovered from pond

Nov 16: Delduar thana police recovered the body of one Laxmani Rani Shaha from a pond of village Delduar recently, reports BSS.
Police said that the body was floating in the pond. She might have committed suicide, the source added. The body was brought to Tangail for postmortem.

FARIDPUR
Orientation course for Imams held

Nov 16: A four-day long orientation course for imams under mosque based mass education programme was inaugurated here on Saturday, reports UNB.
The course was organised by the Islamic Foundation and 72 Imams from Madaripur, Shariatpur, Gopalganj, Faridpur, Rajbari and Magura are participating in the course.
Nurul Huda, Deputy Commissioner of the district was present on the occasion as chief guest. Mazharul Islam, district education officer presided over the meeting.

GAZIPUR
Scarcity of Drinking water in most schools

Nov 16: Scarcity of pure water is a common feature in many schools of the district. Tubewells sunk in the compound of primary schools remain out of order for months together, teachers and guardians informed.
Most of the schools in the district lack water supply facilities. Students as well as teachers are compelled to drink impure water from nearby rivers, canals or ponds, sources said.
As a result, schools children develop skin and intestinal trouble and suffer from water-borne diseases.
Sanitation facilities are also lacking in most of the institutions, they said.

BOGRA
Bridge on Bogra-Chandanbaisha road damaged in 1988 flood which has not yet been repaired.

Our Gazipur Correspondent said, a schoolboy was killed on the spot when a minibus knocked him down near Station Road under Uttara Thana at about 1.15 pm.



AGRI-VARSITY: The Vice-Chancellor of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) Prof M Ashraf Ali Khan distributing certificates among the trainees of a 3-week long training programme on 'statistical methods for agricultural research' in its concluding session held at the GTI dormitory recently.

Tk 10.40 Cr Meghna-Dhanagoda embankment project Completed

CHANDPUR, Nov 16: The embankment of Meghna-Dhanagoda irrigation project at the confluence of Meghna and Padma was completed recently at a cost of Taka 10.40 crore, according to an official hand-out Friday, reports BSS.
Agriculture and irrigation, water development and flood control Minister M Majid Ul Haq Friday visited the embankment site of the irrigation project. State Minister for Establishment Md Nurul Huda, Chairman of WDB M A Razzak and high officials of Water Development Board were present.
The embankment was constructed to protect Meghna-Dhanagoda irrigation project from erosion and wave action of the combined flow at the confluence of Meghna and Padma at Eklaspur.
The construction work of the embankment started in April '91 and completed recently with the financial assistance of ADB. About 35,500 acres of land will come under irrigation facilities and 83000 metric tons of additional crops will be produced per year.
The ministers went round different parts of the embankment and instructed the Water Development Board officials for proper maintenance of the embankment and project areas.
Later, the ministers visited the Chandpur Town Protection Project site. The minister was informed that nearly Taka 2350 crore had already been spent upto 1991 from 1985 for the protection of Chandpur district town. But no satisfactory progress had yet been achieved, the handout said.
Majid Ul Haq said the government was fully aware of the problems of protecting life and property of the people of Chandpur areas. He instructed the Water Development Board authority to implement the present town protection project.
Another report adds: Agriculture, Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control Minister M Majid-Ul-Haq has called for greater unity of all levels of leaders and workers of BNP to firmly organize the party and save the newly introduced democracy.
The minister was addressing as the chief guest the biennial conference of Motlab thana BNP of Chandpur district yesterday. State Minister for Establishment Md Nurul Huda, Md Alam Khan MP, Prof Md Abdullah MP and district level leaders of Chandpur BNP also spoke.
The agriculture minister said the BNP government had come into power through the spontaneous support of the people and they were trying to fulfil all commitments for the development of the country.
He said some political parties were engaged to disturb this process of the government by creating indiscipline and disorder.
Describing the statements given by the opposition parties against the anti-terrorism act of the present government as false Majid-Ul-Haq said, the act was introduced only to save the life and property and improve the law and order situation in the country. In this connection, he said anti-terrorism act had already been enforced in the United Kingdom, India, Malaysia, Indonesia and other countries of the world to restore law and order situation.
The minister suggested the party workers to motivate people against propaganda and organise themselves to implement the dreams of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman and the development activities of the present government.

Nirmul body threatens to launch greater movement

JOYPUHAT, Nov 16: Leaders of Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee at a rally here Saturday urged the government to implement the verdict of Gano Adalat and ban the politics of Jamaat and Freedom Party.
They threatened to launch a greater movement if their demand was not met by 16 December.
Speaking at the rally, Central Nirmul Committee leader Col (Rtd) Abu Osman Chowdhury blamed the government for its inaction against terrorist acts of Jamaat and Freedom Party.
He alleged that a conspiracy was being hatched to change the national anthem and the national flag, and called for resisting such design.
Chowdhury urged the government to refrain from harassing the Nirmul Committee supporters.
Presided over by Convenor of district Nirmul Committee

RU Masters final exams shifted

RAJSHAHI, Nov 16: Date of Rajshahi University masters final examination has been shifted from December 27, 1992 to January 11, 1993, said a press release.
Mukhesur Rahman, rally was addressed by Faizul Hakim, Momin Ahmed Chowdhury, Shamsul Alam Mollah and Baechu Mazumder.
Another UNB report from Pabna adds: Ekattarer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee leaders Friday threatened a mass movement against 'war criminal' Golem Azam and the government if their demands, including trial of the Jamaat chief, were not met by the already-set December 16 deadline.
The warning came from a public meeting held at Iswardi under the auspices of the local unit of Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee.
Jahanara Imam, Convenor of the Nirmul Committee, speaking as chief guest, said people from all walks of life would join for attending the SAARC summit will be barred from attending any Victory Day programme, she said.
Mother of an independence martyr, Jahanara Imam demanded that the places bearing the memories of Liberation War be preserved.
She called upon the people to make December 8 country-wide hartal a success to press for trial of Golem Azam.
The meeting was presided over by SM Ishaq Ali and also addressed, among others, by Abdur Razzak, MP, Col (Rtd) Abu Osman Chowdhury, Maulana Zakir Hossain of Ahle Sunat Al Hadis Al Jamaat, Workers Party leader Tipu Biswas and Pabna district AL Secretary Rafiqul Islam Bakul.



BOGRA: The bridge on Bogra-Chandanbaisha road damaged in 1988 flood which has not yet been repaired.

Notes from Moulvi Bazar

From Our Correspondent
MOULVI BAZAR, Nov 16: The birth centenary of Munshi Ashraf Hussain Sahitya Ratna, Kaybo Binod was observed recently at Munshibazar of Kamalganj thana.
A discussion meeting, organized by Lokayata Sahitya Sangskritik Parisad was held at Munshibazar High School auditorium with Abu Kaisar Khan in the chair. It was addressed among others by Ameen Khan, Ishak Kazal, Sayed Mujibur Rahman and Lovely Choudhury. The meeting was followed by a cultural function.

Patients welfare assoc formed

A Patients Welfare Association was formed in Maulvibazar recently.
In this occasion, a discussion meeting was held with Dr Nurul Anwar, Civil Surgeon of Maulvibazar in the chair at Civil Surgeon office.
A 31-member executive committee was formed in the meeting for the Patients Welfare Association with Dr Nurul Anwar, Civil Surgeon as president and Kamrun Nahar as secretary.

Chess contest inaugurated

Chess competition, organized by Kulaura Chess Association was inaugurated recently at Kulaura public library auditorium.
An inauguration function was held on the opening day with Bijit Kumar Roy in the chair. The function was addressed among others by Prof Abdur Rouf, Narayan Deb and Alauddin Ahmed.
A total of 82 competitors participated in the contest which was held on the basis of 7 round Swiss league system.

Protest rally held

A protest rally, organized by Bangladesh Telephone Shramik Kormachari Parisad (BATESKOP) was held at Sreemongal T&Y building premises recently.
The rally was presided over by Azizul Haque, Assistant Secretary of the BATESKOP Sylhet division. Some leaders of the organisation addressed the rally.
Speakers of the rally criticized the government programme to denationalisation of tele-communication sector. They claimed that T&T is one of the profitable sector and denationalisation programme is the conspiracy to the nation by the government. They demanded for withdrawal of the government decision.

Betel-leaf labourer drowned

A betel-leaf labourer was drowned at 'Laura Chhera' canal under Kamalganj thana recently.
According to the reports, on the day of incident the victim Umar Miah (35) of village Abisina under Kamalganj thana fell in the 'Laura Chhera' a hilly canal and met the tragic end of his life.
The body was recovered after a long search from the canal other two days.

Notorious dacoit nabbed

Sreemongal thana police arrested one notorious dacoit Moyna Miah (40) from 'Murchha' hills recently.
Moyna Miah was the leader of an interdistrict gang of dacoits. He was wanted by the police for 9 dacoity case in Sreemongal and Bahubal thanas.

Two UP members held on charge of cutting paddy forcibly

SATKHIRA, Nov 16: Police arrested Abul Hossain and Abdul Hakim two union parishad members of village Rahimpur in Kaliganj thana Friday on charge of forcibly cutting paddy from a farmer's land, reports UNB.
The farmer Thanda Mia of the same village lodged a complaint to the police that the two members harvested his crop forcibly on Thursday. Police also recovered one SBBL gun from their possession.

Property worth Tk 12 lakh gutted in Feni

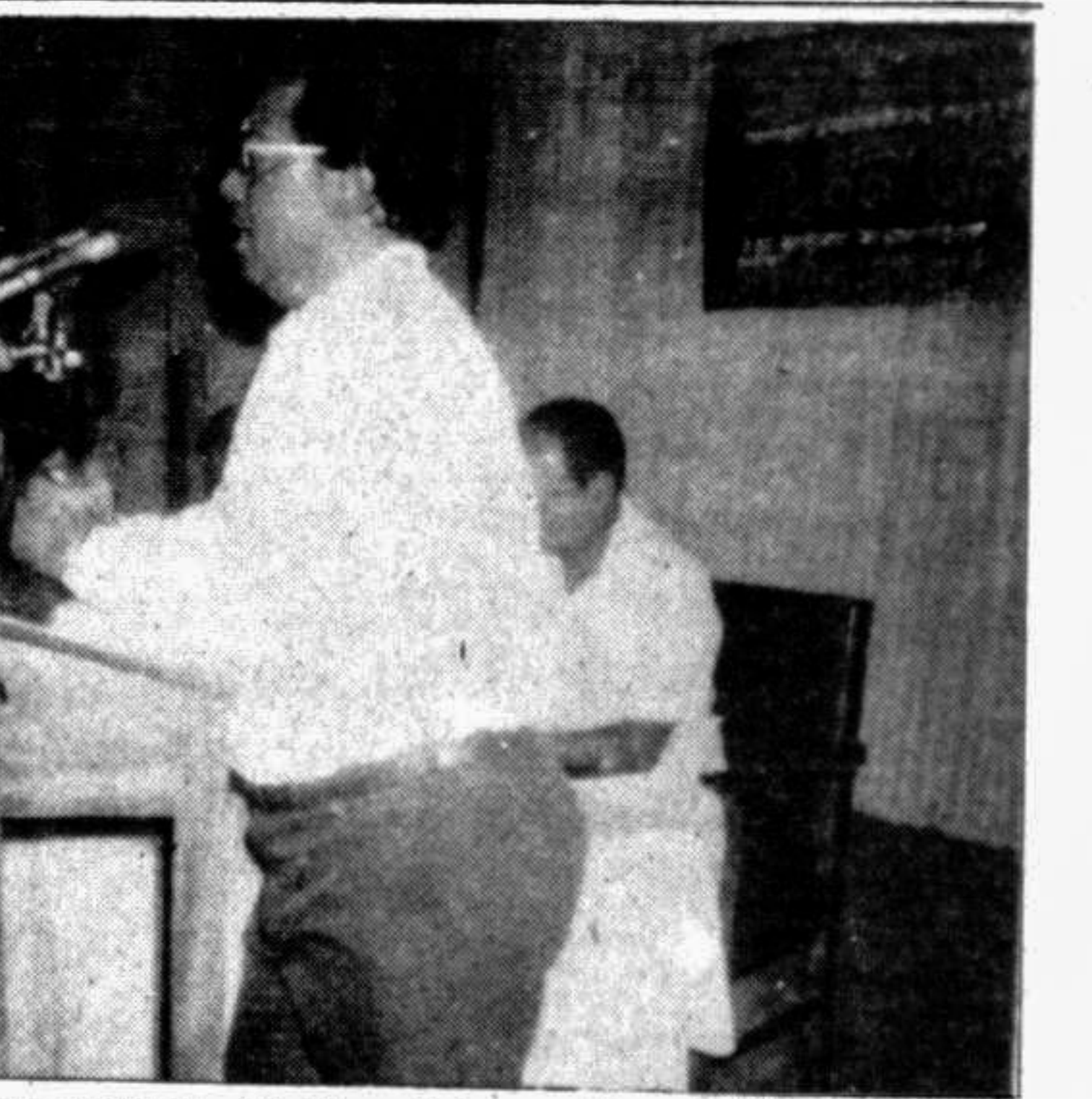
FENI, Nov 16: Property worth about Taka 12 lakh was gutted in a devastating fire at Sindurpur Bazar in Dagonbhutya thana on November 8, reports UNB.
Witnesses said the fire originating from shop soon engulfed the adjacent area and charred at least 10 shops including tea stall, medicine shops. The cause of the fire could not be known.
Local people after frantic efforts brought the fire under control.

Works of 241 projects on in Jhenidah

JHENIDAH, Nov 16: Works of 241 projects are going on in six thanas including four pourashavas of the district, official sources said, reports UNB.
The Relief Ministry under the Test Relief Programme has sanctioned 429 metric tons of wheat for the successful implementation of the programme.
According to district Relief Department, 55 metric tons wheat have been sanctioned for Sadar, 44 metric tons for Shailakupa, 36 metric tons for Harinakundu, 36 metric tons for Kotchandpur and 42 metric tons for Mohorpur thanas.
The projects include repairing and maintenance of kutcha road, school building, plantation and earth filling works.
Another UNB report from Bogra adds: A scheme has been taken up to bring 14 lakh hectares of land under boro, potato, wheat and mustard seed cultivation during the coming rabi season.
According to Agricultural Extension Department, boro will be cultivated on 7,70,000 hectares, potato on 85,835 hectares, wheat on 3,50,820 hectares, mustard seed on 1 lakh 317 hectares and 90,000 hectares for other crops.
Official sources said that the production target of paddy has been fixed at 21,63,000 metric tons, potato 8,58,350 metric tons, wheat 6,66,520 metric tons and mustard seeds 86,321 metric tons.

93 cluster villages face acute food shortage in CHT dists

KHAGRACHHARI, Nov 16: The 78 cluster villages in Khagrachhari and 15 cluster villages in Rangamati hill districts have been facing acute food shortage, malnutrition and disease, reports UNB.
A press release issued by Chittagong Hill Tracts National Co-ordination and Peace Council (CHTNCPC) said each family of the cluster villages has been allotted only 25-35 kilogram of rice per month against their earlier official allotment of 84 kilograms.
The quota is said to be too inadequate for a family of two or more to afford survival. Many of the inmates have been suffering from malnutrition, it said.
Thousands of others, mostly children have been attacked by malaria, a deadly disease of the hill region.
There is no medical team despite repeated appeal by CHTNCPC to combat the menace, it alleged.
CHTNCPC has urged the government to immediately send food and medical teams to the cluster villages.
Mentioned that about 100 cluster villages had been set up in 1986 to protect the non-tribals settled under government programme and tribals returned from the refugee camps in India.
The CHTNCPC said that the movement of the tribals beyond the security zone had been banned for the last few years to avoid untoward incident.
It said about 7,500 non-tribals and 50 tribals were killed by the tribal insurgents during the last 17 years in this region.
Another report adds: A self-styled major of the outlawed Shantibahini has been fighting for life in a hospital in Agartala of the Tripura state of India with critical bullet wounds.
According to report available here Major Polish belonging to Pankazini Prity Bhabatosh groups was shot by an unidentified gunman recently when he was shopping in the Agartala market.



SATKHIRA: Mujibur Rahman, Deputy Commissioner, Satkhira speaking at a function arranged in his honour by district press club held at local auditorium recently.

Betel leaf farming on wane in C'nawabganj

CHAPAINAWABGANJ, Nov 16: Betel leaf cultivation in the northern region are decreasing day by day due to price-hike of raw materials and absence of proper marketing facilities, reports UNB.
Official sources here said about 55,000 growers of Chapainawabganj, Rajshahi, Natore, Naogaon, Pabna, Sirajganj, Rangpur, Joypurhat, Bogra, Nilphamari, Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, greater Dinajpur grow betel leaf on 48,000 acres of land.
Due to high price of raw materials, a good number of betel leaf plots (Baraj) were diminished in these districts during last few years. The prices of bamboo, jutestick, rope etc — the necessary inputs — have gone beyond the reach of the poor farmers.
About Taka 5000 is necessary to cultivate betel leaf on one bigha of land. Additional expenses are required to protect the plots from diseases and pest attack.
Transportation system of remote villages also hampers the marketing of the product. The demand of betel leaf is decreasing day by day in the local market.
In the absence of direct export facilities the growers are losing interest and a large number of them have already deserted their age-old occupation, it is learnt.

Aswini Smriti Sangsad formed in Barisal

BARISAL, Nov 16: Aswini Kumar Smriti Sangsad was formed at a meeting in the Barisal Shilpi Sangha auditorium premises Monday with ABM Asrab Ali Khan Chowdhury in the chair, reports BSS.
A 21-member committee was formed with MD Sultan Alam Naya Mia as Convenor, Tapankar Chakravarty and ABM Mahuddin Khan Chowdhury as Joint-conveners.
The smriti sangsad observed the 69th death anniversary of Aswini Kumar Dutta, the founder of the modern Barisal with due respect on Saturday.