

District roundup

COMILLA

Relief goods distributed among tornado victims

Mar 5: District officials have distributed relief goods among the tornado-hit people of Nalgokote and Chawddagram thanas of the district, reports UNB.

A severe tornado swept over Chawddagram and a portion of Nalgokote thana caused severe damage to the life and property in the area.

According to district administration, four people were killed and 238 injured in Nalgokote. Besides, 368 houses were fully and 189 partially damaged. Eight Madrasahs, one high school, two makhtabs, one primary school and six mosques were damaged in the tornado in the thana.

In Chawddagram 3,791 people of 650 families in 16 villages were affected due to the tornado.

CHAPAINAWABGANJ

Housewife commits suicide

Mar 5: A young housewife allegedly committed suicide in Sadar thana of the district, police said on March 3, reports UNB.

According to family sources, Miktara Khatun of village Sarjan Gobrathala committed suicide by hanging herself from the roof of her house on Feb 25.

Villagers alleged that she was regularly being tortured by her husband.

Police sent the body to Sadar hospital for autopsy. Her husband was absconding.

A UD case has been filed with the police.

BARISAL

Construction of three science buildings on

Mar 5: Construction work on three science buildings in three government degree college of Barisal division at a cost of Taka 1,55,22,000 is progressing fast, reports BSS.

According to an official source, Asian Development Bank (ADB) has been financing these projects.

Taka 51.74 lakh each was sanctioned for the construction of these science buildings.

One science building will be constructed at the Government Bakerganj College of Barisal, one at Government Fazilatun Nessa Women's College of Bhola and one at Government Mathbaria College of Pirojpur, the source said.

SIRAJGANJ

Fund shortage leaves Mother, Child Care Centre closed

Mar 5: The only Mother and Child Care Centre in the district was closed on Wednesday due to shortage of fund, the centre sources said, reports UNB.

The hospital, run with the financial assistance from a private organisation of Germany on a five-year agreement, was shut down following the stoppage of the donation. The accord was expired on December 31 last.

Witnesses said hundreds of patients both pregnant and the children are compelled to leave the hospital amid indignation and disappointment.

The Administrative Officer of the centre said a total of 37 staff, including officers and doctors, were not getting their salary since January last.

He also said steps are being taken to sign new accord with the donor organisation.

JHENIDAH

Punishment to killers of Arman demanded

Mar 5: Hundreds of villagers of Lakhikole, Gopinathpur and adjoining villages brought out several processions on Wednesday demanding punishment of toll collectors and alleged killers of Arman of village Lakhikole, reports UNB.

The processionists paraded the main thoroughfares of the town and later gheraoed the office of the Deputy Commissioner. They submitted a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner in support of their demands.

Army was reportedly killed by one Yusuf of the same village on February 27. The processionists also ransacked the house of Yusuf.

RANGPUR

Eye camp concludes

Mar 5: A week-long eye camp was concluded at Balarhat High School in Mithapukur thana of the district, reports UNB.

Leading Industrialist and social worker of the locality Nurul Huda Sultan organised the eye camp.

Two hundred cataract patients were operated upon and another 1200 patients with eye complications treated in the camp.

Spectacles and medicines were distributed among the patients free of cost on the concluding day on February 23.

CHITTAGONG

17 vehicles fined for traffic rules violation

Mar 5: A city mobile court on March 4 fined 17 vehicles on violation of traffic rules and emitting black smoke in different parts of the city, reports BSS.

According to a press release of the Chittagong Metropolitan Police the court which began its drive in order to detect defective vehicles and check violation of traffic rules from March 2 realised Taka 15,725 as fine from 17 vehicles, including seven trucks and five buses.

RAJSHAHI

Smuggled goods worth Tk 1.20 lakh seized

Mar 5: A special squad of BDR led by Commandant of 20 Rifle Battalion Major Chowdhury Fazlul Bari has seized smuggled goods worth Taka about one lakh 20 thousand from a mango-garden near Arani rail station of the district yesterday, reports BSS.

The smuggled goods included 220 pieces of Indian saree, blouse piece cloth, sugar and bicycle.

NARSINGDI

Send children to schools for making CPEP a success

Mar 5: Labour and Manpower Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan said the present government was determined to turn the vast population into manpower resources by providing proper educational facilities to them, reports BSS.

The minister was addressing the foundation laying ceremony of Chhoragan government primary school here yesterday.

The minister listed the programmes undertaken by the government for the expansion of education facilities and urged all to send their children to school for making the compulsory primary education programme a success.

The school will be built at a cost of Taka 3.90 lakh and will accommodate about four hundred children.

FARIDPUR

Specimen copies for Alaol Literary Award invited

Mar 5: Faridpur Shahittya and Sanskriti Unnayan Sangstha, a local literary and cultural organisation has invited specimen copies for Alaol Literary Award '93, reports BSS.

According to a press release of the Sangstha, Alaol Literary Award '93 will be given on three branches of our Bengali literature. They are poetry, novel and books on historical writings relating to our liberation struggle.

The press release said, the writings must be original and absolutely personal contributions of the writers. It said that no books of foreign writers published in our country nor books of local writers published outside the country will be acceptable.

According to the press release, the period of publication of the books on poetry would have to be within 1st January 1991 and 21st Feb. 1993 and period of publication of novels and historical writings would have to be within 1st January 1987 and 21st Feb. 1993. Only the first edition will be taken for consideration, the press release said.

Interested writers and publishers have been requested to send six copies of books to General Secretary of Faridpur Shahittya and Sanskriti Unnayan Sangstha by March 15.



TANGAIL (GHATAIL): The soldiers of the US and Bangladesh armies working together to build a school cum disaster centre in Ghatail. — Photo SFC Chris Haden, US Army

Another example of school cum disaster centre

GHATAIL (Tangail), Mar 5: A school building which can be used as a shelter in case of natural disaster was inaugurated here Wednesday by US Ambassador William B Milam and Major General Bhuiyan, Principal Staff Officer to the Prime Minister, reports UNB.

The six-room school, constructed by soldiers of the US Army National Guard and the Bangladesh Army, will be used by children in the Ghatail area, a USIS press release said on Thursday.

The construction of this school/shelter by members of the two armed forces accomplishes three goals, according to Lieutenant Simard, the officer in charge of the US contingent.

The most important objective is to provide a schoolhouse for the children of Ghatail, and

a shelter to all the residents of the area in case of a natural disaster.

Second, the exchange, between the two countries increases mutual understanding between Americans and Bangladeshis, and help those involved learn to work together.

Finally, the two groups exchanged practical ideas on building construction.

Addressing the inaugural function, Ambassador Milam referred to the "wonderful inspiration" of how bilateral cooperation can lead to something as tangible as the school building.

He also noted the importance of the exercise in increasing understanding of how democratic societies work and how a professional military maintains itself in a democracy.

This is the fourth school/shelter built by US and Bangladesh military units, the USIS press release added.

This programme is a continuation of the assistance provided to Bangladesh by the US military Operation Sea Angel after the April 1991 cyclone and tidal bore. Other shelters have been built in Mirpur, Mymensingh and Chittagong in previous exercises.

BSS adds: Sixteen persons appearing at the primary teachers recruitment test were expelled from Maulana Muhammad Ali College and Shubnath High School centres on Friday for adoption of unfair means examination halls.

Official sources said about ten thousand candidates from eleven thanas of the district appeared at the test at seven-teen in Tangail district.

Notes from Sylhet

From Our Correspondent

SYLHET, Mar 5: One person was shot dead and three others were injured in the village Bisharadpur under Bhatgaon union of Chhatak thana recently.

According to the reports, at about 10 AM a gang of armed dacoits attacked the house of one Daras Miah and shot dead Terab Ali (40) brother in law of the housemaster Daras Miah.

The miscreants also hit the two young sisters and mother of the housemaster with Dao causing their serious injuries. They were immediately admitted to the Chhatak Thana Hospital.

The armed miscreants looted gold ornament, cash and other valuables worth about Taka several lakh from the house.

A case in this connection had already been registered with the Chhatak police station. But no action had yet been reported.

One rifle, three grenades seized

One Rifle and three grenades were recovered from underground of Khulapara area of Sylhet town recently.

According to the reports, a group of workers while digging canals for construction of a boundary wall suddenly found the said firearms in a ditch.

Police of Kotwali PS later took these firearms into their custody.

A GD entry had been lodged with the police station.

BDR recover

Indian goods

Smuggled Valuables worth Taka 1,35,065 were seized by the BDR in two separate raids on Sunday last.

According to the reports, a contingent of BDR jawans from Bichhnakandi border out post recovered 565 pieces of Indian smuggled saree, Nasrudin Bidis, safety matches, Lungi, and cosmetics worth about Taka 1,12,000 in a raid at village Bagaya under Gowainghat thana. They also held 14 persons for their alleged involvement with the smuggling. The arrested smugglers hail from village Bateshar under Gowainghat thana. A case in this connection had already been registered with the Gowainghat thana.

Bank draft missing

from regd. letter

A bank draft sent from abroad had been missing from inside a registered letter recently.

According to the reports, one Abdul Khaliq sent a bank draft of 300 dollars from Malaysia to his brother Mahmud Ali of village Pakura under Jakiganj thana.

Accordingly, the addressee received the letter from Munshipara post office on 15 February. But he did not find the draft inside the envelop, and immediately informed the matter to the post master.

Later, a written complaint had also been lodged with the Head post master of Sylhet Head Post Office in this regard.

Body of youngman recovered

The body of a youngman was recovered from a village in the border area of Gowainghat thana of Sylhet district on Monday last.

According to the reports, the body of one Nizamuddin (27) was found at Berbil area of Jafflong union under Gowainghat thana. The unknown assailants killed him, it is apprehended.

College teachers not getting salary for two years

RANGAMATI, Mar 5: The teachers and the staff of Karnaphuli Degree College are not getting their salary for the last 24 months due to fund constraint, reports UNB.

Established in 1978 at Kaptai with the donation from the local generous people, the college had so far been run on the cess collected mainly from the local cinema halls and jetty ghats.

But due to the alleged administrative irregularities of the college the cess collection has almost stopped and the collection of tuition fees from the students is quite unsatisfactory. A division has been already created among the teachers of the college on the administrative irregularities thus hampering smooth functioning of the college, said a

member of the governing body. Moreover, shortage of teachers and classrooms, lack of coordination between principal and teachers have been hampering education of the college.

There are only 30 teachers to impart education to some 700 students in the college. In chemistry department there is only one teacher and most other departments are running with acute shortage of teachers. The college was upgraded into degree level in 1992.

The library and laboratory of the college are often being used as class rooms due to the shortage of accommodation.

The guardians of the students urged the authorities to look into the problems and ensure congenial academic atmosphere in the college.

Man burnt alive, goods worth Tk 28 lakh gutted

MADARIPUR, Mar 5: A man was roasted alive and property worth about Taka 28 lakh was gutted in three separate fire incidents in the district in last month, reports UNB.

Fire service sources said a devastating fire broke out in Chharmuguria Jute Mills on February 9 which destroyed property worth about taka 26 lakh.

Mills sources said huge quantity of jute and machinery have been damaged in the fire. The fire was originated from a short-circuit of a trader machine of the mills.

In another fire at a jute godown of one Shahabuddin in Rajoir thana of the district jute worth about Taka 1.75 lakh was gutted. The fire also originated from an electric short-circuit.

A young man was roasted alive when a fire broke out at a tea stall at Chhachhar in sadar

thana of the district on February 10.

The victim was sleeping inside the stall.

Separate cases were filed with the police.

Clash leaves one dead

A report from Habiganj says: A man was killed and ten others were injured in a clash between two rival groups at village Mahbbatpur in Bahubal thana of the district on Friday.

Police said that the victim Asab Ali (55) of the village was returning home after Jumma prayers when a heated altercation took place with his rival group over land dispute. This led to the clash.

Asab Ali died on the spot while three others seriously injured were admitted to Bahubal health complex.

A case has been filed with the police in this connection.



JAMALPUR: Fazlul Haq, Additional Deputy Commissioner of Jamalpur distributing books under Universal Primary Education Programme at Sadar thana recently. — Star photo

Kurigram govt. college beset with problems

From Our Correspondent

KURIGRAM, Mar 5: The Kurigram Govt. college was plagued with multifarious problems hampering the education of students.

Established in 1961 the college was nationalised in 1980 but educational facilities and requisite number of teachers have not yet been provided to run the college smoothly.

There are 14 posts of associate professors, 14 posts of assistant professors and 28 posts of Lecturers in the college for nearly 1500 students. But 31 teachers including 12 associate professors, 13 assistant professors and six lecturers are at present working in the college.

Two posts of lecturers in Bengali, one post of assistant professor, and 2 posts of lecturers in English, one post of lecturer in Political Science, one post of lecturer in Economics, two posts of lecturers in Islamic History and Culture, two posts of lecturers in History, two posts of lecturer in Philosophy, one post of associate professor in Mathematics, two posts of lecturers in Physics, one post of lecturer in Chemistry, two posts of lecturers in Botany, one post of lecturer in Zoology, two posts of lecturers in Accounting, and two posts of lecturers in Management department have been lying vacant for a long time.

To the astonishment of all, there is only one teacher in English department of the college.

Marketing, Finance and

Banking in B-Com (Pass) courses under Rajshahi University have been introduced six years ago but there are no teachers for these subjects in the college.

The posts of head assistant, librarian, cash sarker, and book sorter have been lying vacant for a long time. The liberation-cum-cataloguer has long been functioning as librarian. The college has no boundary wall. The conditions of the staff quarters is not good.

The hostel housed in a tinshed cannot meet even 5 per cent of the requirements. There is no canteen in the college area. The college has no transport. The college has not been properly electrified. There are no fans in the class rooms.

In the absence of examinations hall, all classes are suspended during the HSC and Degree examinations.

45 people fall sick after taking cucumber

SIRAJGONJ, Mar 5: At least 45 people of the district have fallen sick after taking cucumber in the past one week, official sources said, reports UNB.

According to doctors at the hospitals and officials at Agriculture Extension Department, some dishonest businessmen are using harmful chemical Belbon to preserve cucumber.

With the spread of the news people has become panicky.



CHANDPUR: A blood donation campaign was organised on the occasion of Shaheed Day by Chandpur Central Rotary Club. — Star photo