

District roundup

PATUAKHALI

Five sluice gates to be constructed

Mar 9: The Water Development Board will construct five sluice gates in Dasmina thana of the district during the current fiscal year, reports BSS.

Taka 60 lakhs will be spent for implementing the project, an official source said.

The Asian Development Bank will provide financial assistance. About 7000 hectares of land will be brought under irrigation network after completion at the project by June next.

Another 16 projects will be implemented in Bauphal thana of the district in this financial year under Food for Works Programme. About 425 metric tons of wheat will be spent for implementing the projects. The projects included construction of roads, excavation canals and earth works.

CHANDPUR

Property worth Tk 5 lakh gutted

Mar 9: Property worth about Taka five lakh were gutted in a devastating fire at Khajuria Bazar under Faridganj thana of Chandpur district on Wednesday, reports BSS.

Thirty-three shops were burnt down. The villagers rushed to the spot and brought the fire under control after five hours.

The fire originated from a shop due to electric short circuit. About twenty persons were injured.

A case was registered with Faridganj thana.

SIRAJGANJ

Dacoits loot Tk five lakh valuables

Mar 9: Dacoits looted valuables worth about Taka five lakh and injured 10 people as they attacked the homes of two brothers at a village in Belkuchi thana on Saturday night, reports UNB.

Police and witnesses said a group of 25 to 30 armed dacoits stormed the homes of Jamal Mollah and Zafar Mollah at Barupur village at about 2 am and forcibly took away valuables including TV, VCR and Casette players worth about Taka five lakh.

The dacoits also beat up inmates of the houses, leaving 10 of them including 3 women injured. They fired five rounds of gun shots.

Of the injured, Shahidul Islam (18), a first year student of Belkuchi College, was admitted to local health complex in critical condition with knife wounds in his abdomen.

A case was filed with the local police in this connection, but none was arrested so far.

SAVAR

Three BADC storekeepers face defalcation charges

Mar 9: Two cases were filed against three storekeepers of the Irrigation Section of the BADC, Savar Zone, on charges of misappropriation of irrigation equipments, official sources said on March 8, reports UNB.

The District Anti-Corruption Bureau filed the cases after enquiry for misappropriating equipments worth about Taka 2 crore.

According to the bureau officials, the accused sold a huge quantity of irrigation equipments in the blackmarket from January '86 to December '89.

It was detected by the higher authorities and later the storekeepers were put under suspension, the sources added.

JAMALPUR

Cash, valuables worth Tk 1.20 lakh looted

Mar 9: A gang of armed miscreants looted cash and valuables worth about Taka 1.20 lakh from a residence at Iqbalpur in the town on Sunday, reports UNB.

Witnesses said the miscreants stormed the residence of Abdun Noor by breaking open the window in the morning and decamped with the booty.

They also beat up housewife and a girl mercilessly and ransacked all the furniture of the residence.

A case was filed with the police.

KHULNA

One killed, two others hurt while making bomb

Mar 9: A middle-aged man was killed and two others were injured in an explosion while making bombs at a village in Paikgasa thana on Friday, reports UNB.

According to police, Abdul Aziz (35), Huq Gazi (22) and Sabur (37) were hired to make bombs in a house at village Deluti to forcibly occupy a shrimp field.

Abdu. Aziz died on the spot and Gazi and Sabur received serious injuries when the bomb they were making suddenly exploded.

Police arrested both the injured and sent the body to Satkhira Hospital morgue. A case was registered with the local police.

Another report adds: At least four people including a child were injured in a bus accident at Shromant area of the city on Wednesday.

According to police, the accident occurred while the driver of the speeding microbus (Khulna Ta-638) of armed police battalion was trying to save a child, the bus plunged into a road side ditch.

The injured Rajib (8), Habildar Emdad, constables Rashid and Nurul Islam were admitted to a local clinic.

SATKHIRA

One commits suicide over family feud

Mar 9: A man committed suicide after grievously injuring his father by a ramdao at Salpur village in Kaliganj thana on Saturday, reports UNB.

According to police while Manaranjan was beating his wife following a family feud his son Mani Dhal (26) protested vehemently. At this the father became furious and beat him. Mani then became impatient and in return hit his father with a dao causing grievous injury.

Agitated Mani then rushed to his room and committed suicide by taking insecticide.

The body was sent to the morgue for autopsy while father Manaranjan was fighting for life in Shakhipur Hospital.

SYLHET

One to suffer five yrs RI for killing sister

Mar 9: The District and Sessions Judge, Sylhet sentenced a woman to suffer imprisonment for five years on charge of killing her sister, recently.

The prosecution case in brief is that on February 9, 1992, one Sharfunnessa of village Parua under Companyganj thana hit her sister Hamidunnessa with a sharp dao causing her serious injury. The victim Hamidunnessa died later in the Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital.

A case in this connection was registered with the police station. After investigations, the police submitted chargesheet against the accused Sharfunnessa. The court after examining all the records and witnesses of the case, passed the aforesaid judgement.

TANGAIL

Tk 7cr mosque based education plan under implementation

Mar 9: The government is implementing a mosque based nonformal education project through Islamic Foundation at a cost of Taka seven crore, reports BSS.

Under this programme one specific area in each of the thanas of the country has been selected for such education for people of all age groups. Each area will have twelve centres for education.

Official sources said that in Tangail district, Pakulia Jhunkail area, has been selected and the education programme has been started in twelve centres from January a total of five hundred students of all age groups and sexes are getting lessons on Bengali and Arabic, Arithmetic and Islamic knowledge.

Learners are provided with education materials including books. The sources said that there is one supervisor in each district to coordinate the programme. Children are taught in the morning shift and working groups in the night shift.



CHANDPUR: A team headed by Magistrate Akhter Hossain in a raid arrested six fishermen for catching hilsa fish fry from the river Meghna recently. — Star photo

Eighty acres of land under illegal ganja farming

From Our Correspondent

RAJBARI, Mar 9: About 80 acres of land are now under illegal ganja cultivation in the district.

The unions are Ujanchar, Dhunchi, Khankhanpur, Char Khanapur, Durgapur and Pachuria unions, in Goalundo thana, Debogram, Debiganj, Habaspur unions in Pangsua, Ramdia, Boharpur, Ratandia and Khanganj in Balakandi thana and some char areas of Sadar thana.

Ganja plantation in different villages of Balakandi, Pangsua and Goalundo thanas has increased to a great extent for the last two years, it is learnt. A reliable source said that four kg of ganja is produced from a plant and per kg of ganja is selling at Taka 3,000 to 3,500 in the thanas. Ganja is being transported to Dhaka, Mymensingh, Bogra, Dinajpur, Rangpur, Sirajganj, Pabna, Tangail, Rajshahi, Khulna, Chittagong and other parts of the country. Women and unemployed youths are used as carrier of the ganja to different places. The Narcotics and Liquor Department recently seized about 10 maunds of ganja plants with a cart from Pangsua thana. The ganja cultivators have been paying money regularly to the staff of the Narcotics Department and

Flash flood submerges standing rabi crops

COMILLA, Mar 9: Standing Rabi crops on about 3,000 acres of land in ten villages of Daudkandi thana of the district have gone under water as flash flood water entered through the incomplete cross-dam, reports UNB.

Heavy showers from February 17 to 19 in the district and in Tripura of India caused sudden rise in water level of the river Gumti.

Standing Rabi crops like paddy, wheat, potato, ground nut and other cereals have been damaged in the affected villages of Vittikandi, Perakandi, Ghoshkandi, Haraikandi, Kalachandkandi, Allnagar, Ratanpur, Haripur, Kadamtali and Kauriar char.

12,200 tubewells out of order

From Our Correspondent

RANGPUR, Mar 9: At least twelve lakh rural people of the 12 districts of northern region are unable to take pure drinking water as 12,200 hand driven tubewells have become lying out of order for a long.

There are over one lakh and 44 thousand tubewells in the region which have been installed by the Public Health Engineering Department to provide pure drinking water facilities to the rural people.

Of them, at least 12,200 tubewells have gone out of order is a result, over 12 lakh people have become worst hit due to non-availability of pure drinking water.

Due to non-availability of spares parts, poor strength of technical staff of PHED in the rural areas and above all the indifferent attitude of the department concerned, the repairing and re-sinking of these huge number of disorder tubewells have been hampering adversely.

It is informed that every

year a poor number of tubewells are found repaired and re-sunk by the authority concerned while a large number tubewells go out of order.

According to the information, the government has withdrawn the subsidy on repairing and re-sinking of the tubewells and the required expenditures have been levied on the rural people. This new system has been introduced about two years back. But, the financially crippled rural masses can hardly afford the expenses.

Following scarcity of pure drinking water, the people in the vast rural areas are compelled to take impure water collected from the ponds and canals.

Six dacoits held

Another report says: Six inter-district criminals have been caught by the people of Patrabind village under Mithapukur thana and handed over them to the police recently.

Notes from Gaibandha

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, Mar 9: Eye camp under the auspices of WIF blindness prevention project, Gaibandha concluded here at Sadullapur college campus.

The camp was formally inaugurated by Abdus Razzak, Deputy Commissioner, Gaibandha. A total of one hundred patients were operated upon.

Karmir Hath unit executives

The biennial election of local voluntary organisation 'Karmir Hath' was held recently at its office.

A 15-member executive committee was formed with Fazul Huq, President, Sekender Azam Annam, Secretary and other members were MA Quadir, Ramjan Ali, Abdur Razzak, Liaqat Ali Bhuiya, Samul Islam Piplu, Khandker Mofazzal Hossain, SA Tatyab, Dr Shahiduzzaman Haroon, Ruhul Amin, Bablu Khanek, Shawkat Azam.

Sat Bhai Champa's founding day observed

The 21st founding anniversary of local juvenile organisation 'Sat Bhai Champa' observed here recently.

On this occasion, three day long programme was chalked out that included sports, fancy football match, rally, and discussion meeting and cultural function. On the inaugural session, the members of the organisation collected warm clothes of 200 piece that was distributed among the destitute children. The programme was inaugurated by Abdul Aziz, ADC (General). At the concluding session, a cultural function was held which was presided over by Shamul Islam Piplu and addressed by Sultan Uddin Ahmed, Abu Zafar Sabu, KM Rezaul Hoque, Amittav Das Himun and Abdul Mannaf.

Training course concludes

Two week long training course of VDP and Village Women Team leaders concluded here at local Ansar Barrak recently.

Under this programme, a total of 123 team leaders from Shaghata, Gobindaganj and Gaibandha sadar thana participated at the training course. The programme included physical exercise and work related with socio-economic development.

Tk 4.44 lakh allotted for mosques renovation

Ministry of Religious and Cultural Affairs allotted Taka 4.45 lakh for the renovation of 35 mosques in the district.

Out of that Taka, one lakh 15 thousand for ten mosques under sadar thana, Tk. 70,000/- for seven mosques under Gobindaganj thana, Tk. 30,000/- for three mosques under Sunderganj thana and Tk. 2 lakh 30 thousand for 15 mosques under Sadullapur thana.

Sarbahara Party leader killed

BARISAL, Mar 9: A leader of the 'Sarbahara Party' was killed this evening by unidentified gunmen at Gortar Par, six miles from here, reports BSS.

According to police, deceased Manik, 32, was among six 'Sarbahara' men, who availed the amnesty declared by the government and had surrendered to the authorities.

BDR recover 1008 Indian chocholet bombs, heroin

CHAPAINAWABGANJ, Mar 9: Bangladesh Rifles recovered 1,008 Indian chocholet bombs from Khalighat area of the town, reports UNB.

Acting on secret information, BDR raided Khalighat area on March 2 and recovered the bombs which are being used in clashes between the rival parties and in terrorist activities.

Another report from Comilla adds: Homna police arrested two alleged criminals and recovered three pipeguns and six rounds of bullets in two separate raids. The accused were identified as Wahid Mia (35) from Badhanagar village, Salan Ali of Jarigaon village and another criminal Hari Das managed to escape, police said.

Acting on secret information, police arrested Wahid Mia and following his confessional statement recovered two pipe guns and six rounds of bullets from the house of Hari Das.

Police also arrested Salan Ali of village Jarigaon and recovered a pipe gun from his possession.

A report from Satkhira says: Bangladesh Rifles recovered 400 grams of heroin worth

about Taka 12 lakh and arrested a man from Upsha border area in Kaliganj thana Sunday night.

Acting on secret information, BDR jawans arrested Joydev (27) of Mirzapur village of the same thana at the point while he was returning from India with the heroin.

He was handed over to the local police while the heroin was deposited with customs authorities. A case was filed with the police.

8 dacoits held

Eight armed dacoits were arrested and five illegal arms and ammunitions were recovered by Chuadanga thana police recently.

Acting on secret information, Chuadanga thana police headed by A M Bazul Karim, OC, Chuadanga thana raided the local sadar hospital area and arrested 8 alleged dacoits like Din Mohammad, Hanif, Hasan, Sukur, Mohor Ali, Siraj, Saifuddin and Rafiqul. The police also recovered one double barrel gun, four country made guns and 21 rounds of ammunitions from their possession.

Police also recovered huge quantities of looted goods from their possession.

Lathyrism patients not getting proper treatment

From Our Correspondent

NETRAKONA, Feb 9: The lathyrism patients in 8 thanas of the district are not getting proper treatment at the local hospital. Most of the lathyrism patients are found moving door to door for alms. Their handicap and helplessness are quite evident in their movement.

Lathyrism broke out epidemically in several regions of the country including Netrakona district after the Liberation War in 1971.

District Civil Surgeon office, Netrakona informed that the number of lathyrism patients in the district will exceed 600.

After a wide press coverage, the government carried out a survey on lathyrism to envisage a plan 18 years back out nothing has been done in this respect.

However, at the first stage a foreign health organisation took up projects but misappropriation and forgery resulted the closure of the projects.

Later, mother project entitled 'self development' was under taken. That project also met the same fate.

The government started issuing cards to the suffering kids and mothers for wheat distribution. But it is learnt that the concerned chairman and members had grabbed the lion portion of the allotted wheat.

The local people feel that a survey should be done to find out the exact number of lathyrism patients and ensure proper treatment and rehabilitation of the patients.



SATKHIRA: A big broom procession brought out her in protest against the price hike of fertilizers, pesticides and other agricultural inputs and realise the demand of distribution of khas lands among the landless. About 500 men and women participated the procession. — Star photo

Tk 61.19 lakh for road development

MAGURA, Mar 9: Local Government Engineering Department sanctioned Taka 61.19 lakh for the road development works in the district during current fiscal year, reports UNB.

Official sources said Taka 25.19 lakh has been sanctioned for constructing a sluice gate on Jagla-Chapra Khal in Sadar thana.

Rest of the amount Taka 36 lakh has been sanctioned for construction of Magura-Khamarpara road, Magura-Mohammadpur Road, Sreepur-Sachilapur Road, Jhoonary-Bunaganj Road and 17 culverts at different points.

The construction work is expected to be completed by May next. With the completion of the works, road communication, irrigation and sanitation facilities will be improved to a great extent.

At least 10 people were injured Friday in a clash between two rival groups at Deghi village in Salikha thana of the district.

Among the injured Idris Ali (35) and Haibar Ali (30) were admitted to Sadar Hospital. Their condition was stated to be critical.

According to witnesses, the clash ensued between the supporters of Idris Ali and Akbar Ali of the same village over a petty matter. Lethal weapons including bamboo, iron rod and sharp weapons were used in the clash.

A case has been filed with the local police.

Text books shortage hampers education

MAGURA, Mar 9: Primary and secondary education are being hampered in four thanas of the district due to shortage of text books in the new academic session, reports UNB.

Students did not get the same. Text books of different classes of secondary education are also hardly available in the open market due to flaws in supply system of the School Text Book Board.

Moreover, some dishonest book traders taking advantage of the situation have created artificial scarcity of the text books. Some students alleged that they demand exorbitant price for the books and something compel the students to take note books with the text books.

Teachers and guardians urged the concerned authorities to look into the matter and take immediate steps in this regard.



MYMENSINGH: A peace procession brought out in Mymensingh town organised by Gano Shahaza Sangstha and Sampradaik Okiyo Monch recently. — Star photo