

District roundup

KUSHTIA

Two notorious criminals held

May 21: Police arrested two notorious criminals from Fakirabad village in Sadar thana and recovered two firearms from their possession Monday night, reports UNB.

Acting on a tip, police raided the house of Emdadul Haq and nabbed Badruddin Alias Budo (30) and recovered one cut rifle and 15 rounds of ammunition from his possession.

Police also arrested Budo's accomplice Akmal Hossain from another house of the same village and recovered one pistol and one round of ammunition.

Both the arrested were wanted in connection with several criminal and murder cases pending in Mirpur police station.

Another report adds: A meeting of Syndicate of Islamic University was held Monday with Vice Chancellor Prof MA Hamid in the chair.

In the meeting different student organisations, including Chhatra Dal, Chhatra Shibir and Chhatra Oikya submitted separate memoranda to the syndicate members. They also brought out separate processions to press home their demands.

Students, teachers and the common people are using the bags for carrying books, files and commodities.

The polythene bags are thrown away here and there after use. The used bags remain scattered everywhere making the rain water stagnant and polluting the environment as the remains of the polythene bags are not damaged.

Local people urged the authorities to control the widespread use of polythene bags to save the people from health hazards.

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CHANDPUR One shot dead by miscreants

May 22: A man was shot dead by a group of miscreants at South Sreepur village in Hajiganj thana recently, reports UNB.

The victim was identified as Ruhul Amin Miji (47), Secretary of local Matsha Samabaya Samity.

Police sources said a group of local armed miscreants numbering 4 to 5 entered the house of Ruhul Amin at night on April 29 and shot at him.

Villagers said the miscreants fled away the scene firing blank shots.

Critically injured Ruhul Amin succumbed to his injuries on his way to Chandpur General Hospital.

Police suspected past enmity was the reason behind the killing.

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

RANGPUR FWP projects review meet held

May 22: A meeting to review the progress of work on projects under Food-for-Work Programme was held here recently with Abdul Halim Bhuiya, District Relief and Rehabilitation Officer in the chair, reports BSS.

The meeting discussed the progress of fiftyeight projects being executed in the district at a cost of two thousand three hundred and fifty eight metric tons of wheat.

HABIGANJ Minor girl slaughtered

May 22: A minor girl was slaughtered by unknown miscreants at Gorail village of Chunarughat thana on Wednesday.

The victim was identified as Rahema Khatun (6), daughter of Tami Ullah of the village.

Police sources said the victim was missing from May 11. On the following morning they recovered her body from near the house of Hat Mia of the same village.

A case has been filed with the local police.

PABNA

3 still missing as ferry boat capsizes

May 22: Three of the four people missing since a ferry boat capsized in the Padma during storm on Sunday were found dead Monday, says UNB.

They were identified as Naser Ali Sheikh (32) and Mishu (5) of Bera thana and Mumtaz Khatun (22) of Sujannagar thana.

Local people recovered the three bodies from the river in Raninagar area of Sujannagar thana at about 11 am.

Another, named Khalil Sheikh (23), missing since the mechanised boat was overturned by the norwester in Latifpur area, is yet to be traced.

COMILLA Int'l Training Course begins

May 22: A three-week long International Training Course on "Poverty Focused Rural Development" for Asia-Pacific Commonwealth Countries was inaugurated at Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BARD), Comilla recently. The Course was sponsored jointly by the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC) and BARD, Comilla, says a press release.

A total of twenty high and mid level officials from Bangladesh, India, Malaysia, Pakistan, Sri-Lanka and Western Samoa attended the course as participants.

The general objective of the course is to equip the participants with knowledge and skill to plan and manage rural development programmes for poverty alleviation in an effective manner in the respective countries.

The session was inaugurated by the speech of Md Abdul Hye, Deputy Minister of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operative as Chief Guest. Md Mahe Alam, Additional Secretary-in-Charge, Rural Development and Co-operatives Division (RDCD), presided over the session. Dr Kshanada Mohan Das, Director General BARD, JL Bailur, Director-in-Charge (Food Production and Rural Development), Commonwealth Secretariat, M A Qudus, Director (Research) and M A Choudhury, Director (Training) of BARD also addressed the session.

M A Qudus, Director (Research), and Ma Shirin Hussain, Deputy Director (Rural Administration) of BARD organised the course as Course Director and Associate Course Director respectively.

CHUADANGA 200 illegal shops, offices evicted

May 22: Some 200 illegal shops and offices in the district town were evicted Tuesday, reports UNB.

The eviction operation was jointly conducted by the Task Force and Roads and Highways department.

Officials said a large number of shops and offices of different organisations were erected on the roadsides at Hassan Chattar and Daulatdia of the town causing problems to the movement of vehicles and pedestrians.

During the eviction a group of people tried to oppose the operation in which one employee of the Roads and Highways department sustained injuries.

On the other hand, the district mini-bus owners association stopped playing their vehicle to protest the eviction.

While contacted an official said the operation will continue upto May 27.

SATKHIRA Young man commits suicide

May 22: A young man allegedly committed suicide at village Pania in Kaliganj thana of the district by taking poison on Monday, reports UNB.

Police said Alauddin son of Anwar Ali Khan of the village got married with the daughter of Gahar Ali of village Noornagar in Shyamnagar thana of the district five days back.

On returning from his father-in-law's house Monday Alauddin took poison in the night and died instantly. The reason behind the suicide could not be known.

His body was sent to Sadar hospital for autopsy.



RANGPUR: An advent of the monsoon, the Teesta river erosion at Nohali union under Gangachara thana of the district has rendered hundreds of families homeless. —Star photo

Nor'wester claims 7 lives in Chuadanga, Sherpur

CHUADANGA, May 22: Five persons were killed and four others were seriously injured under a severe cyclonic storm swept over 20 villages of Jibannagar thana of the district recently.

Of the total, deceased two brothers between 10 to 12 years old died following a wall collapsed in the village Minajpur under Jibannagar thana. Besides one person of the village Gopalnagar of the thana also died when a branch of a tree fell upon him while he was collecting mangoes near at his residence.

Besides two person, one of village Kashipur and another of village Sreerampur of the thana also died during storm. The injured persons of the storm are Hashina and Tahazel of Krishnapur, Golam of Jibannagar and Dudu of Zadabpur. All of them were injured following wall collapse.

Over 5000 kutcha houses of different areas of Jibannagar thana were also completely damaged following the cyclonic storm.

The storm caused damage to property over Taka 50 lakh in the thana. Most affected unions of the thana are Jibannagar, Banka and Andul Bana.

Hundreds of trees were uprooted in storm. Tinsheeds of different mosques, schools and shops were blown away in the affected areas.

Fifty per cent of the total IRRI-boro paddy of the said three unions of Jibannagar thana were also damaged in the storm.

The Sherpur-Nalitabari road was damaged near Panchgaon

area due to heavy rainfall and onrush of water, disrupting the communication.

Jessore

Our Jessore Correspondent writes: At least one hundred thatched houses and a number of educational institutions of Chowgacha thana in the district have been damaged in cyclonic storm recently according to a delayed information.

It is learnt that many huts under Sukpukuria, Sharupdah, Patbila, Chowgacha, Dhuliani, Fulshahajhuli unions of the thana have been completely blown off in the cyclone while the Patbila Haji Shahajahan Ali High School has been dashed to the ground causing partial damage to Katgara High School, Sanchadanga High School, Mashila High School Dhuliani High School, Daspakia High School, Raniali High School and Sahua High School.

It is also learnt that widespread damage has also been done to IRRI and boro crops of the area causing heavy losses to poor farmers.

A source said that the report of this damage has not been communicated to the concerned ministry as yet by the local thana authority despite its submission to them by the chairman of affected unions on emergency basis.

Now, pointed attention of the government, more particularly the education ministry is being sought to take steps for immediate reconstruction of the school buildings in greater interest of the nations.

The Sherpur-Nalitabari road was damaged near Panchgaon

Notes from Brahmanbaria

From Our Correspondent BRAHMANBARIA, May 22: On the occasion of world 'Red Cross and Red Crescent' day, zila 'Red Crescent' unit organized a day-long programmes on May 8.

The day's programme began with hoisting the national flag and Red Crescent flag by Advocate Abdus Sattar MP and Liaquat Ali Khair Unit Chairman of Red Crescent. A peace rally by the members of the Red Crescent unit paraded the main streets of the town.

In the afternoon a discussion meeting was held under the chairmanship of Liaquat Ali Khair. Among others who addressed in the meeting were Obaidur Rahman, Shahajan Shaju, Ashukul Islam and Munir Hussain.

Various diseases from malnutrition

The children of rural and urban areas of seven thanas of the district affected by various diseases due to malnutrition.

Most of the children have been attacked with dysentery, skin diseases, jaundice, whooping cough and pneumonia. It is learnt that most of the guardians of the affected children are poor day labourers, landless and unemployed farmers.

It is alleged that preventive measures and supply of necessary medicine are inadequate in different thana health complexes and sadar hospitals to combat the diseases. Child specialists are hardly available in the thana health complexes. This resulted in deaths of many children without proper diagnosis and treatment.

Discussion on family planning

A family planning meeting was organized by Sarail thana Family Planning Department held at the Dewra Community Hall of Shahjada union under Sorail thana of the district recently.

Joint Secretary for Health and Family Welfare Ministry Abdus Samad Bhuiya was present as chief guest. Secretary in his speech said that education, health and family planning programmes are the aim of present government esorted to the people. He praised the enthusiasm work of field workers.

Annual sports day inaugurated

The annual sports and cultural competition of Akhaura Shaheed Smriti College was held at the college ground under Akhaura thana of the district recently.

Thana Nirbahi Officer and Chairman governing body of the college Anwarul Karim inaugurated the meet in a befitting manner. Principal of the college AM Md Ishaque (Bir Pratik) presided over the function while Shahidul Hoque, Capt (Rtd) Abdul Hoque (Bir Bikram), Abu Ahmed, Vice Principal Atiqur Rahman, Rural Development Officer, Ali Hussain, Project Implementation Officer, Altaful Hoque and Residential Engineer Shawkat Ali were present as special guests.

College orientation function held

The freshers reception of Brahmanbaria government college was held here at college compound recently.

Principal Shahajan Chowdhury presided over the function while Begum Shahajan Chowdhury was present as chief guest. It was addressed among others by Vice Principal Md. Muklesur Rahman, General Secretary Aminur Rahman, Assistant general secretary Nazmul Islam Akungi and Debar Hussain.

Later it was rounded up with a musical soiree.

12 heroin addicts die in Sirajganj

SIRAJGANJ, May 22: At least 12 heroin addicts died and another 25,000 people were addicted to it in the district during last two years, according to a survey report conducted by some social welfare activists, reports UNB.

The report said some anti-social elements had long been engaged in heroin business and they smuggle it into the eastern parts of the country from India to train and bus.

Sirajganj was said to be the main route of heroin trafficking in the region, the report added.

Heroin addicts were mostly rickshawpullers and day-labourers.

Soyagabinda village in Sirajganj pourashava was the main centre of heroin business. About 50 per cent people of the villagers were addicted to it, the report said.

Our Sirajganj Correspondent adds: Construction work of a bridge over river Fulzore in Raiganj thana has been started at the estimated cost of Taka 1.24 crore.

The bridge at Dhangara bazar in Raiganj thana was a long-cherished demand of the local people. T M A Mannan MP formally inaugurated the works of the bridge. Construction work will be completed by next two years.

195 arrested in Barisal

From Staff Correspondent BARISAL, May 22: Police arrested 195 absconding convicts and outlaws from the six districts of Barisal division during the last two days.

Officials here said that five of the arrested were the members of the outlawed Sharbahara Party.

They said that 44 people were arrested from Barisal district, 33 from Patuakhali, 53 from Bhola, 13 from Barguna, 18 from Jhalakathi and 34 from Pirojpur district.

However, police said that no weapons were recovered during the special police operation against the criminals.

1064 block supervisors to get training on modern farming

BARISAL, May 22: Agriculture Extension Department, Barisal Zone has undertaken a training programme for 1,064 block supervisors of seven southern districts of the zone to educate them about modern method of cultivation for boosting agricultural production, reports BSS.

According to an official source, the course included lessons to fight 'salinity' problems and techniques of modern cultivation on upshi variety.

Of the total 260 block supervisors will be given training in Barisal district, 157 in Pirojpur, 105 in Jhalakathi, 164 in Patuakhali, 105 in Barguna, 151 in Bhola and 122 in Gopalganj districts.

The government has sanctioned Taka 2,89,250 for implementation of the programme, the source said.

Meanwhile, 105 block supervisors of Jhalakathi district and 164 block supervisors of Patuakhali district were brought under this programme.

Experts from Bangladesh soil development institution, rich research institution and

agriculture research institution will impart training to the block supervisors, the source said.

Another reports says: Aus cultivation in 66 thanas in eleven southern districts under Barisal Agriculture Extension Zone (BAEZ) is going on in full swing.

According to an official source, a total of 4,25,652 hectares have been brought under aus cultivation in these districts this year.

Of the total, 78,445 hectares will be brought under 'Upshi' variety of aus and 3,47,207 hectares under local variety.

The government had sanctioned 94,579 kilograms of aus seeds for distribution among the farmers of the districts.

Another report adds Bangladesh Agriculture Extension Department of Barisal region organised education programme for different agriculture official of seven southern districts during the current month.

The programme included visits to demonstration plots in Barisal and Kurigram.

Fish scarcity acute in Jessore

JESSORE, May 22: Scarcity of fish in local markets has been acute for quite sometime past adversely affecting food habit of common people.

It is learnt that any variety of fish is a costlier item now being the availability most uncertain.

Detailed reports received here indicates that native carp like ruhi, mrigal and katla, has disappeared from markets while magur, singi, kot, puti, tengra, mayu, khalisa, have followed suit much earlier. Even varieties of sea fish, are out of markets. There were times when these were abundantly available at nominal price.

Same is the case with exotic carp like grass, silver and mirror carp. Prices of these varieties have shot up abnormally with the availability becoming rare.

Small sized hilsa, is occasionally found in the markets in small quantity. But price is so high that poor people get no access, the report indicated. It is also learnt that pic-

a determined effort to boost fish production in massive quantity purely on scientific method to meet local deficit and supply the surplus to other markets or the country.

In second phase, some more water bodies have been taken up for aquaculture with the end to cover deficit in the district under IFAD fund.

It is alleged fishing of fingerlings in all the baors taken up in first phase, is going on to achieve the yearly target without protest from any corner.

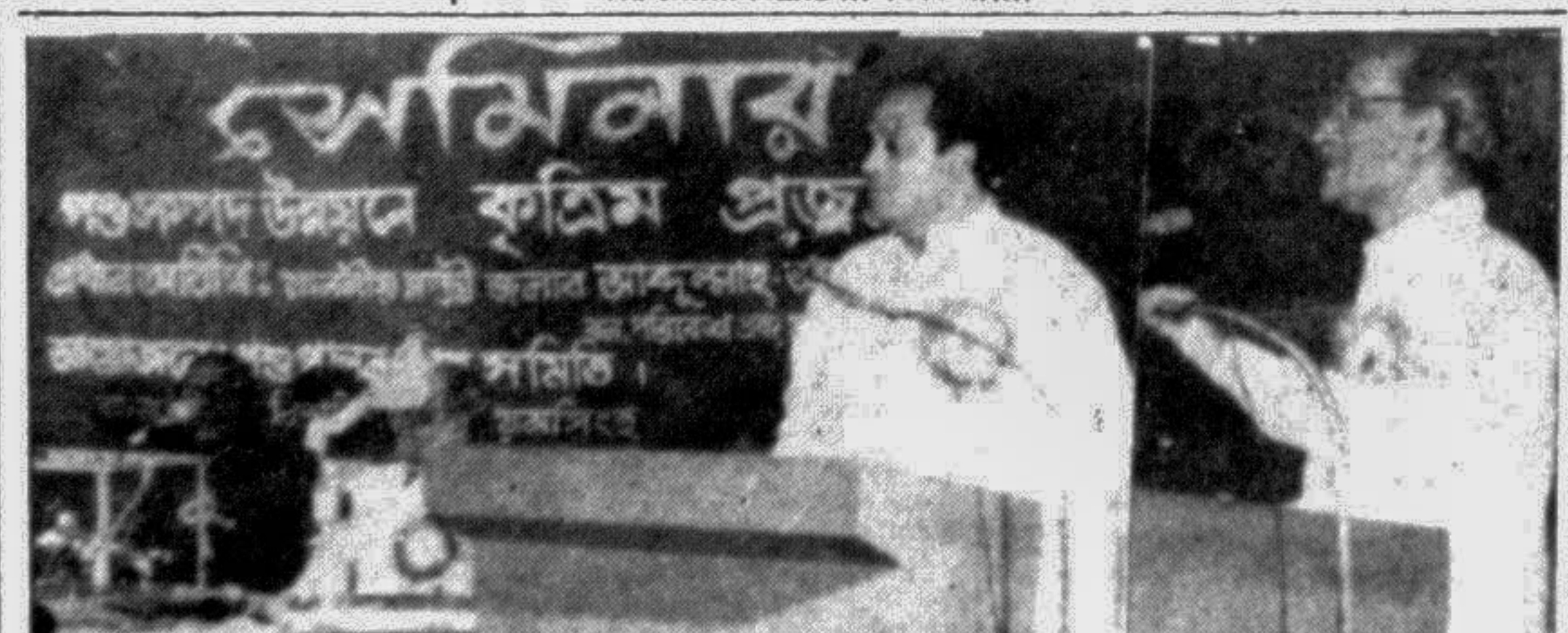
Baor Manager, Bergobindapur baor, particularly, is engaged in fishing fingerlings openly since his joining the project three years back.

Authority is silent knowing full well the happenings, intended to sabotage the project. If this practice continues further, fish production will be permanently stopped and project will turn into dead horse.

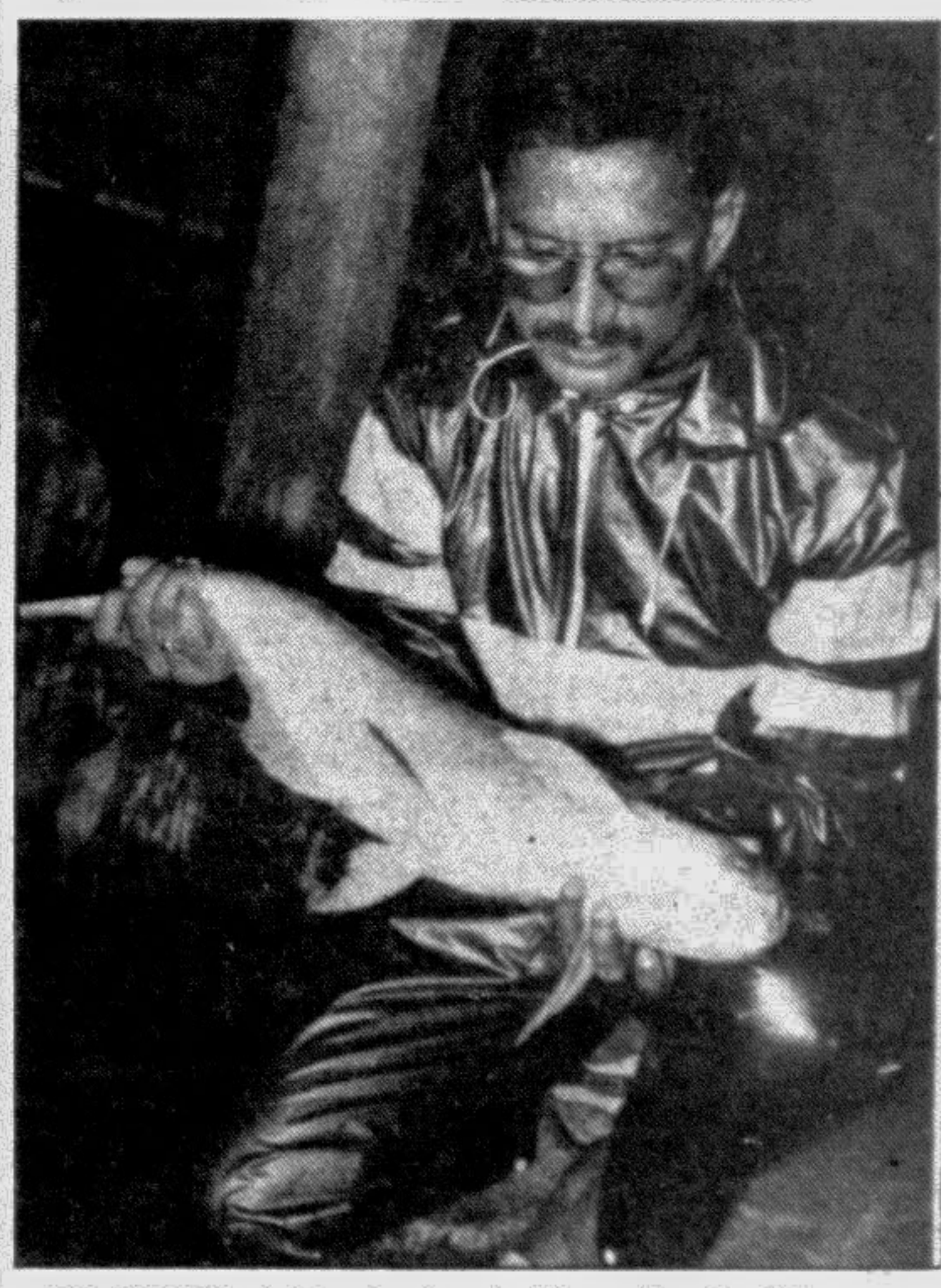
It is high time for the Fishery Department to look into the matter and devise new modality to get over the situations.

Jessore is noted for having good number of water-bodies befitting for pisciculture.

Bergobindapur baor, Marjad baor and Katgora baor, out of the lot, were taken up for development in first phase under World Bank loans in 1978 with



MYMENSINGH: The Fisheries and Livestock Minister Abdullah Al-Noman speaking as chief guest in the seminar on 'Artificial Insemination for Livestock Development' held at Animal Husbandry Faculty Gallery of Bangladesh Agricultural University recently under the auspices of Faculty Students' Association. The function was also addressed by the Vice-Chancellor of BAU Prof Md Ashraf Ali Khan as special guest. —Star photo



CHANDPUR: A big size female Pangasius Sutchi a new variety of fish imported from Thailand is seen in the hand of Khalilur Rahman, Scientific Officer of Fisheries Research Institute, Chandpur. —Star photo

Chicken pox breaks out alarmingly

NETROKONA, May 22: Chicken pox has broken out in different parts of the town in the last fortnight causing panic among the people, reports UNB.

About 500 people so far have been attacked by the disease. In some families almost all the members are being attacked by this infectious disease one after another, it is learnt.

The worst hit areas are Malni road, Satpai, Katy Malni, Bair Chapra, Nagra, Pukuria along with few other areas of the town.

The Civil Surgeon of the district said chicken pox is a viral disease and usually breaks out with the advent of spring season. He, however, could not

give any figure of the patients attacked by the disease.

Another report from Kishoreganj adds: Chicken pox has broken out in an alarming form in different parts of the district.

Hospital sources said patients from various parts, including remote areas, were pouring into thana health complexes and hospitals for treatment.

But most of the patients were reportedly going back due to lack of necessary medicine in the hospitals.

The worst affected areas are Katiadi, Pakundia, Karinganj, Bhatrab, Itna, Mittamain, Nikli, Hossainpur, Tarail and Sadar thana.