

District roundup

MAJDEE COURT

Reconstruction of 18 govt school completed

June 18: Reconstruction of 18 government high schools in Noakhali region is nearing completion under cyclone reconstruction programme, reports UNB.

Of the total, 13 high schools are being constructed in Noakhali, three in Lakshimpur and 2 in Feni district.

The local Facilities Department had sanctioned about Tk 21.02 crore for reconstruction of the schools. About 90 per cent of the work has already been completed and the remaining work is expected to be completed by this month.

Besides, 11 Government Primary Schools were reconstructed in Noakhali, Lakshimpur and Feni district at a cost of Tk 6.73 lakh.

Construction of three Primary Teachers Training Institutes in greater Noakhali district is also going on in full swing at a cost of Tk 18.16 crore.

The Facilities Department has also taken up a programme to construct 24 primary school cum cyclone shelters, mosques, clinics and community centres in Hatiya under Saudi grant of Tk 11.75 crore.

Of them construction of six school cum cyclone shelters has already been completed.

PABNA

Youngman killed in clash

June 18: A young man was killed and 12 others were injured in a clash between two rival groups following a dispute over a football match at Hathbaria village in Sathia thana recently, reports UNB.

Police said Chand Ali (19) of the village succumbed to injuries at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital at about 10 am.

Five of the injured Abu Bakar (22), Latif (18), Moazzem (25), Ramzon Ali (35) and Madhu were admitted to Sathia Thana Health Complex in critical conditions.

Witnesses said the clash between the rival groups erupted when they started quarrel centering the match on the day afternoon. Both the groups allegedly used deadly weapons during the hour long battle.

Separate cases were filed with the local police.

SIRAJGANJ

Youngmen killed in road mishap

June 18: A young man was killed and 20 people were injured when a bus turned turtle after colliding with a truck at Bolta Ullapara thana on the Bogra-Nagarbari highway recently, reports UNB.

Police said Barat Ali of Majorpur village in Royganj thana died on the spot when the Nagarbari-bound bus fell on the road while it tried to overtake a truck but had a collision with another (truck) coming from the opposite direction at 8 am.

Five of the injured were rushed to Sirajganj General Hospital in critical condition.

Police seized both the bus and the truck, but the drivers managed to flee.

BARISAL

Current net worth Tk 2 lakh recovered

June 18: Mobile court has recovered current nets worth about Tk two lakh from some fishermen in a drive recently from three rivers of Barisal district, reports BSS.

According to an official source, the court also fined ten fishermen Taka 500 on the rivers of Kalabadar, Arhial Khan and Kirtankhola.

The mobile court comprised Barisal Sadar Thana Magistrate, District and thana level fishery officials and the police personnel, the source added.

NARAIL

Poultry diseases break out

June 18: Poultry diseases have broken out in different parts of the district causing deaths to a large number of poultry birds, reports UNB.

About 50,000 poultry birds died of and another 30,000 were attacked by the diseases like Ranikhet, Pox and Gamboro, local people said.

The diseases could not be checked due to lack of medicare facilities and scarcity of vaccine and medicines.

Besides, indiscriminate sales of sick poultry birds have aggravated the situation further by spreading the diseases.

C' NAWABGANJ

Construction of Mahananda Briega completed

June 18: The construction of third China-Bangladesh Friendship bridge on the river Mohananda was completed here recently, four months ahead of its schedule, reports UNB.

The 448.30 metre long and 9.92 metre wide 'Mahananda Bridge' connects Shibganj and Bholahat thana with the district town headquarters. The bridge has 1.30 metre foot path on both sides.

The bridge has been constructed at a cost of Tk 50 crore including Tk 25 crore foreign exchange provided by the government of China as project aid.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia had unveiled the plaque of the bridge in August 1992. The construction of the bridge started in February 1992.

Official sources said about 265 Chinese workers including 65 experts and over 100 Bangladeshi technical experts worked round the clock to complete the work on schedule.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia is expected to formally inaugurate the bridge on June 25.

DINAJPUR

Tk 19.6 lakh allocated for new schools

June 18: Facilities Department of the Ministry of Education has allocated more than Taka 19.6 lakh for repair and reconstruction of 14 non-government high schools in three districts under Dinajpur Zone in fiscal 1992-93, reports BSS.

An official source said the districts are Dinajpur, Panchagarh and Thakurgaon.

The schools are Kaharole Girls High School, Nawabganj BL High School, Shatabganj BL High School, Rainganj BL High School, Khanshama Pilot Girls High School, Parbatpur Pilot High School, Shujapur High School, Birole Pilot High School, Fulbari OM Pilot High School and Kasimuddin Ahmed High School under Dinajpur district, Tetulia Girls High School and Mirzapur High School under Panchagarh district and Haripur Pilot High School and Thakurgaon Riverview High School under Thakurgaon district.

MAGURA

Anti-social activities on rise

June 18: Anti-social activities in different parts of the town, are on rise causing grave concern among the city dwellers, reports UNB.

Local elite alleged that immoral acts were being carried out by anti social elements almost openly in various public places.

The Naton Bazar, Eldgah Maidan, Shilpakala building area, district boards upper market, bus stations, cinema halls and the mill areas have become dens of gamblers, gay girls, and drug addicts, they alleged.

The unabated sales of various types of drugs in open market have aggravated the situation further, they added.

Gurdians of young generation particularly of the girl students are feared of sending their wards to educational institutions. They alleged that the social atmosphere might be deteriorated if such immoral acts were not checked immediately.

They urged the concerned authorities to take measures to curb the rising trend of unsocial activities.

PIROJPUR

One shot dead by miscreants

June 18: A Union Parishad chairman candidate was shot dead by some unknown miscreants at his residence at Kuriana in Nesarabad thana recently, says an UNB report.

Police said Shamiran Sikdar (32) who was a candidate of Kuriana Union Parishad by-election died on the spot when a gang of miscreants shot at him at his residence.

Police said Shamiran Biswas, the chairman of the Kuriana Union Parishad, was also shot and killed by unknown miscreants few months back.

Shamiran Sikdar who contested the by-election could not win.

Police suspected the outlawed Shabbarah activists as the assailants.



KHAGRACHHARI: A view of a quiet road through a dense forest in the Hill Tracks.

— Star photo

34 schemes of defunct RDDB still remain abandoned

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, June 18: A total of 34 projects of now defunct Rajshahi Divisional Development Board (RDDB) have been lying abandoned since 17 years. The half-done physical constructions have turned to the dens of garbages and are polluting the environment of different areas of the northern districts.

It is gathered that in 1976 the then President Ziaur Rahman formed Rajshahi Divisional Development Board (RDDB). In 1976-77 fiscal year, 34 development projects were taken up as a part of developing the socio-economic and cultural activities of 16 northern districts.

The projects included 11 auditoriums, three roads, one stadium, 16 auditorium-cum-public library, one municipal market, one town hall and one bus terminal. After completing 30 to 60 per cent of works, the projects were abandoned due to unknown reasons.

In 1986, during the region of President H M Ershad the RDDB was abolished under ordinance No 4 without mentioning any guidelines for the projects.

However, on demand from the locals of the project areas,

the Ershad government had handed over the works of the projects to the erstwhile upazila parishad authorities to complete construction works. But no work was done for alleged shortage of fund.

Following the situation, the fate of the incomplete projects is uncertain and needs early attention of the present government.

Pry edn in N-dists in poor shape

June 18: Primary education in 16 northern districts faces manifold problems including lack in physical infrastructure and shortage of academic equipments.

It is gathered that there are 536 government primary schools in Rajshahi district, 359 in Chapainawabganj district, 394 in Natore, 772 in Naogaon, 644 in Pabna, 860 in Sirajganj, 937 in Bogra, 341 in Jalpurhat, 723 in Gaibandha, 541 in Nilphamari, 291 in Lalmonirhat, 686 in Rangpur, 541 in Kurigram, 394 in Thakurgaon, 828 in Dinajpur and 300 schools in Panchagarh district. In addition to the government primary schools, there are 13000 registered in government primary schools in northern districts.

About 1200 government primary schools lack in physical facilities. Students of the said schools are to attend their classes under open sky. There are acute crisis of chairs, tables, benches, blackboards and other educational equipments in a considerable number of schools. Shortage of teachers is another problem in the schools.

Out of 44,900 teachers, 6,435 posts have been remaining vacant since long past. An attempt was made to fill up these vacant positions in February 93 but somehow or the other the attempt ended in demise.

Conditions of the schools in remote villages especially in the charlands of Kurigram, Bogra, Sirajganj and Pabna districts is beyond description. Some schools of these areas are said to be in operation only in papers. On the other hand, the schools of district and thana headquarters are overburdened with students. Due to shortage of teaching staff, a large number of schools are operating with one or two teachers hampering smooth congenial atmosphere.

One killed in road mishap

KUSHTIA, June 18: One Ahasan (20) of Juglupara in Saikupa thana of Jhenaidah district was killed in a bus accident Tuesday on Kushtia-Jhenaidah road in front of the Islamic University. The ill-fated youngman was on cycle when a minibus hit and overrun him. He died on the spot, reports BSS.

His body was brought to Kushtia general hospital for postmortem.

A case has been registered in this connection with Kushtia thana. The driver fled with the bus.

Freedom fighter stabbed to death in Gopalganj

GOPALGANJ, June 18: A freedom fighter was stabbed by a group of miscreants at a village in Tungipara thana for resisting their terrorist activities, witnesses and police said, reports UNB.

Abul Kalam Mollah (46) was admitted to Tungipara Red Crescent Hospital in a critical condition after he was injured by the miscreants in front of his house at Bashbaria village recently.

A case was filed against seven people with Tungipara thana in this connection but none was arrested.

Family sources said the local mastans who made the attempt on the life of Kalam for opposing their terrorist activities in the locality were now threatening them to withdraw the case. They were in constant fear of further attack on them, they said.

Nursery sells record number of tree plants

Feni June 18: A nursery farm sold a record number of tree plants worth about Tk one lakh during the last one month, reports UNB.

The nursery, situated in the town, is run by Feni Government Drivers Welfare Association.

The President of the association and the plants included mango, guava, papaya, flowers and timber.

The sales of the plants were a sign of rising consciousness about environment, he added.

Financial crisis grips Ulpur Girls' Orphanage

From Our Correspondent

GOPALGANJ, June 18: The Ulpur Girls' Orphanage and Hafizia Madrasa under Gopalganj Sadar thana facing a lot of problems due to financial crisis.

It is learnt that 102 residential and non-residential female students are taking Islamic education in this Madrasa. But most of the teachers have left this Madrasa for not getting their salary and only four male and female teachers are working to save this Madrasa from closure.

The superintendent of this Hafizia Madrasa told this correspondent this Madrasa is the only female Madrasa of Gopalganj district and the Madrasa was established in 1977 in an abandoned property. They building was in pitiable condition which badly needs repair.

The superintendent said that the government had given only Taka 3,900 but we can't do with this petty amount.

One get life term

AKM Fazlur Rahman district and session judge Gopalganj in

a judgement gave life-term to one Dulal Modhu (25) son of one Jatun Modhu of village Kandhi under Kotalipara thana for throwing acid to one Nilma Roy (16) a student of class X of Kandhi High School under Kotalipara thana and daughter of one Vadro Kanto Roy of same village recently.

It is learnt that Dulal Modhu threw acid to Nilma at her residence at 1-30 am when she was sleeping.

As a result Nilma was seriously injured and was treated at Kotalipara Thana Health Complex, Barisal Medical College Hospital and PG Hospital Dhaka.

A case was lodged with Kotalipara thana against Dulal Modhu and police enquired the case and submitted chargesheet against Dulal Modhu to the court.

AKM Fazlur Rahman district and session judge Gopalganj found Dulal Madhu, guilty and given life-term RI, fine of Tk 5 thousand.

Kamrul Hossain PP conducted the case on behalf of govt and advocate Fazlul Haque Khan conducted case on behalf of the accused.

Private tuition becomes commercial practice in Kushtia

From Our Correspondent

KUSHTIA, June 18: Private tuition has become a commercial practice in the town and in six thanas of the district.

According to local guardians, teachers of both the government and non government schools and colleges are engaged in private tuition to earn extra money.

It is alleged that the teachers hardly teach the students in the classroom with devotion and average students find it difficult to understand their lessons properly.

The guardians finding no other alternative had to engage teachers as private tutors for their wards while the poor students are the worst sufferers.

According to a science teacher, students enrolled in primary and secondary schools and colleges belonging to affluent families usually employ their teachers as private tutors.

It is gathered that the science teachers get a large number of students for coaching in batches. The Mathematics, English and Accounting subject teachers also coach students in batches.

Private coaching by the teachers in batches starts before and after the school or college working hours.

Private coaching is also being practised in the higher secondary and degree levels for securing good results in the practical subjects.

Science students informed that it has become almost impossible to do better results without the help of the private tutors.

Skin disease breaks out

Skin diseases have broken out in an alarming form in different parts of the district.

Children of the poor families are the worst sufferers as their guardians cannot afford to buy necessary medicine for them.

Local people complained that the district health department has not yet taken any preventive measures to combat the growing menace.

It is also alleged that necessary medicines are not available at the Thana Health Complexes. Consequently poor people are facing problem as they cannot afford to go to the private practitioners.

Local people have urged the authorities to take proper steps to mitigate the suffering of the patients.

Slaughtering of sick animals

Indiscriminate slaughtering of sick animals, mushroom growth of mini markets dumping of garbages and defecation in open drains adjacent to shopping centres further pollutes the environment and causing health and sanitation problems in the town.

According to sources, sick animals like cows, buffaloes, sheep and goats are slaughtered in makeshift slaughter houses which are left uncleaned posing a threat to health.

Besides garbages and household trash and other materials are thrown everywhere causing environment pollution.

On the otherhand mushroom growth of markets at different places cause hazards in the movement of pedestrians and vehicles. Numerous temporary mini stalls of various items are being set up everyday on both the sides of the roads leaving very narrow

space for the movement of vehicles, leading to regular traffic jam.

Pedestrians are the worst sufferers. Besides indiscriminate parking of rickshaws creates obstacle in the movement of vehicles and pedestrians.

Moreover, road communication is disrupted by the heaps of building materials dumped on the roadsides, while in most cases the shopkeepers block roads with empty drums and other goods.

55 examinees expelled

Some 55 HSC examinees were expelled from different centres of the district on the first day of the examination on Thursday for adopting unfair means, reports UNB.

Of the expelled, two are from Islamia College Centre, two from Kumarkhali College, 19 from Bharamara College, 13 from Mathurapur College, 11 from Mirpur College and eight from Daulatpur College.

Officials said the examination was being held peacefully in all the centres amidst tight security arrangement.

A total of 6,467 candidates are appearing the examination in 10 centres of the district.

3 students rusticated

Three students of the Islamic University have been rusticated for five years on charge of assaulting the Vice Chancellor of the University Dr Abdul Hamid, reports UNB.

The rusticated students are Afzar Ali, Anwar Hossain and Arzul Hasan, campus sources said Friday.

Vice Chancellor Dr Abdul Hamid was roughed up by the students on the campus on April 10, the sources added.

KCCI election held

Khandakar Rashiduzzaman Dudu was elected President of the Kushtia Chamber of Commerce and Industries (KCCI) uncontested recently, reports UNB.

Doctor arrested for raping patient in Sylhet

From Our Correspondent

SYLHET, June 18: An Assistant Registrar of the Gynaecology Department of M A G Osmany Medical College Hospital here has been put under suspension today on charge of violating a young female patient.

Doctor Golam Mostafa allegedly took Afia Begum, 22, into his office chamber Wednesday afternoon for a check-up and raped her, according to hospital sources.

A number of nurses and Class IV employees rescued the victim from there, the sources said.

Soon afterwards a group of agitating people gheraoed the hospital and ransacked furniture resulting in suspension of normal work in the hospital for nearly six hours.

The hospital authorities held an emergency meeting and suspended the doctor. The authorities also reported the matter to the police.

Accordingly, police from Kotwali thana arrested Dr Golam Mostafa from a house at the Kajalshah area where he was hiding, police said.



These school children cross this bridge almost everyday. The condition of the bridge is said to be quite poor. A large number of people also use the bridge located in Demra Thana.

— Star photo by Enamul Huq