

District roundup

DINAJPUR

Three die of kala azar

June 28: Three men died of kala azar and 17 others were attacked by the disease at village Moheshpur in Kotwali thana of the district during past three days, hospital sources here said, reports UNB.

The deceased were identified as Sudhir Chandra (50), Shuku (35) and Ashraf (30). Patients affected by the disease were admitted to Dinaipur General Hospital.

According to physicians, mosquitoes are the main carrier of the germ of kala azar, one of the oldest diseases in the world. The injection of Sodium Stibo Gluconate and its allied group, is the remedy for the disease.

PABNA

People foil dacoity bid

June 28: Local people foiled an attempted dacoity at the Maligacha Branch of Pubali Bank in the town Saturday night, reports UNB.

Witnesses said they gheraoed a gang of about a dozen armed dacoits breaking the collapsible gate and ventilators of the bank.

The gangmen, however, sneaked out firing gun shots. No property or cash was lost from the bank.

Police visited the scene and registered a case. None was arrested so far.

SIRAJGANJ

BNP leader killed

June 28: A local BNP leader was killed by some unknown assailants at Chhangachha bazar Saturday night, reports UNB.

Santosh Ali (45), a BNP leader of Chhangachha Union in Sadar thana, was attacked by the miscreants at about 9.00 pm Saturday while he was having tea in front of a tea-stall, police said.

They hit the victim with sharp weapons and left the place exploding cocktails. Ali succumbed to his injuries at 9.45 pm on the spot, family sources said.

Ali, who was also a village leader, met the tragic end of his life while he was returning home at Noudafulkocha from Sirajganj town, they added.

Another report adds: Kamarkhand thana police recovered a body from a rice-mill at Jamtoil East Bazar early Sunday.

The victim was identified as Sakhawat Hossain (45) of Char Tengraill village, police said.

The body was sent to Sirajganj General Hospital for autopsy. A case was filed with local police in this connection.

SATKHIRA

BDR seizes Indian goods worth Tk 2 lakh

June 28: The Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) men seized 200 pieces of Indian cow hide worth about Tk 2 lakh from a place named Madinar Darga in Kaliganj thana on Sunday, reports UNB.

However, nobody was arrested.

Later, the seized goods were deposited to local customs godown at Basantapur in Kaliganj.

BARGUNA

Post mortem house threatens public health

June 28: The local post mortem house, situated in a densely populated area in the town, is threatening the public health as well as polluting the environment, reports UNB.

Stink from decomposed and unclaimed bodies, kept for days together in the morgue, makes the environment unbearable for human habitation.

Local people alleged that dissection of bodies were performed in the house almost openly and very often dogs and foxes are found carrying the dissected parts.

They urged the concerned authorities to shift the morgue to some other places, far from the dwelling areas, to check the health hazard. But nothing tangible was done in this regard.

The house was built in its present location when the area was desolate and covered with dense forest. But with passage of time and increase of population and expansion of local pourasava, many houses were built around the house.

In 1986, the then Deputy Commissioner of Barguna referred the matter to the Ministry of Health considering public health.

MYMENSINGH

Conference on plant pathology

June 28: A two-day biennial conference of Bangladesh Phytopathological Society began at Bangladesh Agriculture University (BAU) on Sunday, reports BSS.

Agriculture and Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control Minister M Majid-ul-Haq formally inaugurated the conference.

Among others the function was addressed by BAU Vice Chancellor Dr Md Ashraf Ali Khan, Executive Vice President of Bangladesh Agriculture Research Council Dr Md Sayetullah Chowdhury and President of Bangladesh Phytopathology Society Dr Md Golam Ali Fakir.

The main theme of the 5th biennial conference is "priority problem areas of plant pathology". A total of 350 participants from different organisations are taking part in the conference.

The Minister stressed the need for identifying the problem areas of plant pathology and priorities for their solution.

MADARIPUR

Plan to distribute 1.9 lakh saplings

June 28: Forest Extension Department was taken up a programme to distribute 1.90 lakh saplings of different varieties of tree among the members of public in Madaripur district, reports BSS.

According to an official source, the saplings are being sold to the people at a nominal price. The saplings include those of coconut, mahogany, shishu, arjun, karai devdaru and teck. The saplings were grown in three nurseries in the district.

B'BARIA

Body recovered

June 28: The body of a young man was recovered from Shahzadpur area in Sarail thana recently, police said Friday, reports UNB.

The body was identified as Mashhur Rahman Khan (25) of Dewra village in the thana.

Local people said Mashhur had been missing since May 27.

The cause of the death could not be known, but the body bore several cut marks.

JHENIDAH

Workshop for UP chairmen

June 28: A 14-day workshop for local union parishad chairmen concluded at the Zila Parishad auditorium Tuesday, reports UNB.

A total of 68 chairmen from various union parishads of the district took part in the workshop, organised by the Local Government Engineering Bureau (LGEBC).

The workshop was arranged to make them acquainted with the knowledge on various issues including proper utilization of lands, preparation of plan books, maps, construction of roads, bridge and culverts.

Experts from various disciplines conducted the workshop.

TANGAIL

Ansar, VDP rally held

June 28: Annual rally of Ansars and members of Village Defence Party (VDP) was held recently at local Bhasani Hall, reports BSS.

Presided over by the Deputy Commissioner, Abdul Matin Khondakar the rally was attended by the Director General, Ansar and VDP Major General Syed Baduzzaman, Deputy Director, Ansar and VDP Md Abul Kashem, Police Super, Md Lutfar Rahman and District Adjutant of Ansar and VDP Sheikh Abdul Mannan among others spoke on the occasion.

Prizes were distributed among the best Ansars and VDP members.

KUSHITIA

Woman shot dead

June 28: Armed miscreants shot and killed a woman at village Ishalmari in sadar thana recently, reports UNB.

The victim, Rushnai (32), was shot at and later slaughtered by the assailants. They left her body on the bank of GK canal, near the neighbouring Bamanpara village.

The victim was allegedly associated with different terrorists activities and a member of outlawed parties.



MAULVIBAZAR: The Shamsernagar Foad near Simultala bazar of the flood-hit district is still under knee-deep water. — Star photo

Smuggling of Indian fish rampant

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE, June 28: Smuggling of Indian fish through different borders of the district is rampant following scarcity of local production for the last few months adversely affecting national economy, said a source.

It is learnt that Mashila, Kulia, Shahajadpur, Kabilpur, Andulia, and Hizil of Chowgacha, Kashipur, Sikarpur, Benapole, Salkona, and Patk-

hali are busy channels for smuggling of fish. Native curps like rut, mrigal and katla are being smuggled into the country from across the border through these points in massive quantity.

It is also learnt that hats and bazar including local town, are flooded with indian fish. Big-sized rut, katla and mrigal, available, are being sold openly and in stable manner in these

markets with no objections from any circle. Reports received here indicates that lots of indian fish are being carried to capital on public transport.

The BDR seized a van full of indian fish from Salua Bazar of Chowgacha thana on its way to Jessore recently. The fishes were sold on auction of the Baor office site, a source added. Incidentally Bergobindapur Baor is situated along the

Indian border, connected with network of communication facilities.

Recently, Indian fishes were found kept preserved in deep freeze of this Baor office by a group of people and the Baor Manager did not disown it with none in this respect, a source said. He has employed one Attur Rahman from local union, allegedly for smuggling the fishes. He remains with the Manager in his office round the clock.

Indian goods flood

Kishoreganj markets

Our Kishoreganj correspondent says: The sale of contraband goods is an increase in Kishoreganj markets. The contraband goods are: Indian sarees, spices, sugar, jira, pulses, cutpieces crackers, cosmetics, onion, chilli, cumfin, seeds, cardamom etc and these goods are being sold in the market without any restriction. Indian sarees are entering the commercial centre from the bordering areas by an organised gang of smugglers.

Apart from this, a large number of women of different areas engaged in flying business are collecting Indian sarees from the bordering areas of Brahmanbaria and Comilla districts for supplying them to different places including rural markets and sell from door to door.

The women smugglers move from Kishoreganj to Bhairab, Brahmanbaria, Akhaura and Comilla by train for collecting Indian sarees and other items. Smuggling of Indian sarees and crackers has surpassed the previous records. This illegal entry of Indian goods have badly affected the local traders.

A section of smugglers backed by a powerful circle are involved in such smuggling. A big margin of profit attracts them to smuggling.

Local merchants and traders also disclosed that smugglers carry cartons of 555 cigarettes, Benson and Hedges cigarettes and Burmese betelnuts by track and train coming from Chittagong.

Besides, a section of smuggler are involved in smuggling medicines from India. The production of which are banned in Bangladesh.

Political leaders and local people alleged that administration is responsible for such corruption and also due to the inaction of local law enforcing agency.

Smuggled Indian insecticide

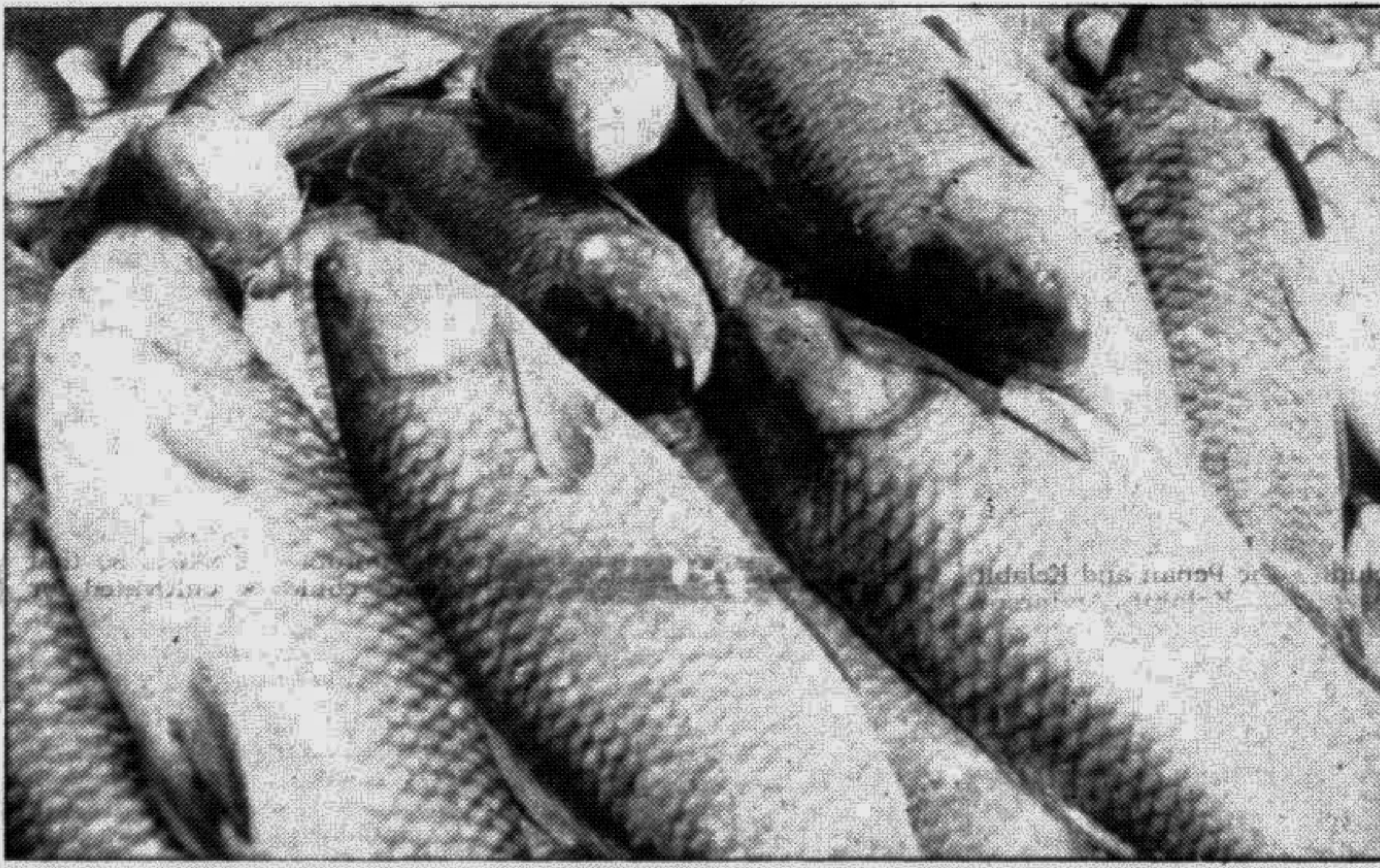
Smuggled Indian insecticides are causing adverse effects to the crops and land in all the 35 thanas of Kishoreganj, Mymensingh and Netrakona districts.

According to allegations, a section of well organised smugglers blessed by the influential persons of the local administration are smuggling the indian insecticides into the country and selling in the markets along the border belt in these three districts. These are being sold to the farmers at cheaper price compared to the local insecticides.

An agricultural experts said that due to extensive use of Indian insecticides, the yield of paddy has registered fall all over the districts.

The farmers alleged that the insecticides imported by the government are sold at high prices. Moreover, these are being adulterated before sale to the farmers.

It is felt that a massive campaign against Indian insecticides should be launched all over the country explaining the adverse effects on the crops and lands.



JESSORE: The BDR men recently seized Indian fish in border area while being smuggled into the country. — Star photo

Hundreds of children suffering from gastro-intestinal disease

MOULVIBAZAR, June 28: A good number of children in six thanas of the district have been attacked with gastro-intestinal and skin diseases, reports UNB.

Children of Rajnagar, Kamalganj, Kulaura, Barlekha, Sreemangal and Sadar thanas are the worst sufferers. About 60 per cent of the victims belong to these areas, social workers and local people said.

Acute poverty, consumption of adulterated food, scarcity of pure drinking water are learnt to be the main reasons for outbreak of the diseases, local doctors said.

Lack of medicare facilities and consciousness of parents have aggravated the situation further.

Everyday hundreds of children from far flung areas of the

district rush to the health complexes and other hospitals for treatment. But most of them return home disappointedly due to lack of medicare facilities and necessary drugs, local people said.

They urged the concerned authorities to take measures so that affected people could get better treatment from the local health complexes and hospitals.

Another report says: Livestock population in the district is decreasing fast due to rampant slaughtering of cattleheads.

The indiscriminate slaughtering of sick cattleheads is also creating serious health hazard and polluting the environment; local people complained.

According to sources, old

and diseased livestock — cows, buffaloes, goats and rams — are being slaughtered indiscriminately at various hats, bazars and markets in the district. The mutton and beef are being sold in the markets without certificates from concerned authorities.

Everyday, a huge quantity of meat is put up for sale in the markets, mostly in unhygienic way, leading the consumers to various gastro-intestinal diseases.

Most of the butchers carry out this sort of illegal practices with the help of health and sanitation inspectors; local people said.

They urged the concerned authorities to check the trend and sale of meat in unhygienic way.



MYMENSINGH: The Vice Chancellor of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) Professor Dr Md Ashraf Ali Khan distributing the Karim Memorial Gold Medal to Syed Anwaruzzaman (a student of the faculty of Agricultural Engineering) who secured highest marks in the bachelor degree examinations of BAU. Professor M Hussain, Chairman of the Professor Karim Memorial Board of Trust (centre) and Professor Musarraf Hussain Miah are also seen in the picture. — Star photo

Five get 7 years RI for kidnapping girls

CHANDPUR, June 28: Five youngmen were sentenced to seven years rigorous imprisonment for kidnapping three girls in a judgement delivered here recently, court sources said, reports UNB.

The convicts are Jasimuddin, Md Guesh, Md Selim Mostafa, Md Ahsan and Nasiruddin of Paragaon village in Kochua thana of the district.

They were also fined Tk 5,000 each or in default to suffer one year more rigorous imprisonment.

Eight others were acquitted of the charges.

District and Sessions Judge Siddiqur Rahman Mia who is also the Special Tribunal judge found them guilty under the Anti-terrorism Act and delivered the judgement in absentia.

According to the case, the accused kidnapped three young girls — Jesmine Akter, Shahin Akter and Josna — from Paragaon village in Kochua thana in mid-September last year.

The miscreants took their obscene photographs under duress and made forged marriage certificates with the

girls. They also demanded Tk. 50,000 as ransom from the guardians of the girls.

A case was filed with the local thana and police submitted chargesheets against the accused after investigations.

Juba League leader dies in jail

FENI, June 28: A Juba League leader died in Matjdee jail Saturday night, party sources said here Sunday reports UNB.

The deceased, Fatik Chandra Dash, General Secretary of Awami League-backed Juba League, was sentenced to one year imprisonment under Anti-Terrorism Act on June 20.

The reason behind the death could not be ascertained. But president of district Juba League Advocate Jahangir Hossain Khasru and general secretary, Hossain Hazari, in a joint statement termed the death as "mysterious" and demanded immediate investigation into the matter.

Juba League will hold a protest meeting at Trunk Road and bring out a procession in the town tomorrow afternoon.

Misappropriation of CI's sheet Case against seven filed in Jamalpur

From Our Correspondent

JAMALPUR, June 28: District Anti-corruption Bureau has filed a case against 7 persons including Mirza Azam MP at Jamalpur Sadar thana for alleged misappropriation of 22 bundles of CI-sheet.

The Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation sanctioned 22 bundles of CI-sheet for 15 poor erosion-hit families in different villages of Madarganj thana during the last fiscal year.

It is reported that Mirza Azam had sold the CI-sheet in collaboration with six persons.

Shamsuddin Ahmed, OC of Madarganj Police Station, recovered the CI-sheet from a shop in Banljiuri bazar and a house of the thana.

A case was filed under section 5 (2), No-2, Anti-corruption in 1747, Case No-8/G, R No-117 (2) 99, Dated 10 (6) 93.

The other accused persons are: an assistance of district Relief office, Md. Rawshan Ali, Tipist, Siddiqur Rahman Dali, Zahurul Haque, Yunus Ali, Nasiruddin and Rawshan Ali.

Nur Ahmed, District Anti-Corruption Officer investigating the case.

Another report adds: A annual conference at Bangladesh Jatiyatbadi Rickshaw Samik Dal at Melandah thana unit was held at local Government Girls' High School ground with Chandra Miah in the chair recently.

S M Farukul Bashar Chisty, President of Jamalpur district unit BNP and District Samik Dal Convener, Jamalpur Pourashava Chairman, Fazlur Rahman were also present as chief and special guests.

The meeting were addressed among others Bangladesh A Uto Rickshaw Federation Chairman Mukadam Hossain, District BNP Secretary Mahabubur Rahman, District Juba Dal President Khondokar Ilias Mortaza, Al-haj Qiasuddin Jamiyati, Meherullah, Kismat Pasla, and Sirkar Abdus Salam Bakul.

Businessman killed

KUSHTIA, June 28: One A tar Rahman Biswas, a businessman of Borobazar was killed allegedly by his rival group on Friday, report BSS.

While he was saying magreb prayers at his business chamber at Borobazar he was attacked by many people with lethal weapons. They took him on the bank of the river Gorol. He was admitted to Kushtia General Hospital with serious injuries.

1,344 held on various charges in 5 months

BARISAL, June 28: A total of 1,344 persons has been arrested on different charges from six southern districts of Barisal division between January 1 and May 17 last, a police source said, reports BSS.

Besides, 39 different types of arms and ammunition were also recovered from these districts, the source added.

Of the total, 104 were the members of so-called 'Sharb-ahara Party and 542 ab-

scending accused persons. Of the total, 511 were arrested from Barisal district, 183 from Patuakhali, 222 from Bhola, 75 from Barguna, 84 from Projpur, and 269 from Jhalakati districts.

The recovered arms included pipe-guns, revolvers, rifles, pistols, guns etc. the source said.

A special drive on curbing the criminal activities started from May 24 last, the source added.

Mosquito menace causing inconveniences to people

BARGUNA, June 28: Mosquito menace has increased alarmingly in the district causing much inconvenience to people, reports UNB.

According to sources, a large number of people including women and children have been attacked by Malaria in five thanas of the district following mosquito bites.

The drains, ditches, canals, pools, bushes and derelict ponds covered with water hyacinth have become ideal breeding grounds for mosquitoes.

People of both the urban and rural areas are equally affected by mosquito menace but the students, specially the HSC examinees, are the worst sufferers.

Taking the advantage, a group of dishonest traders have increased the prices of various brands of mosquito killers, including aerosol, and selling them at exorbitant prices.

Local people, however, complained malfunctioning of mosquito coils adding that in spite of serving the purpose they were affecting public health, particularly the children.

Price of mosquito nets have also shot up beyond the pur-

chasing capacity of the common men particularly the low and fixed income group people. An ordinary mosquito net now costs Tk 200 as against Taka 150 earlier.

Local people urged the concerned authorities to take measures to check the menace and destroy the breeding grounds for ever.

JCD, BCL clash at CMC

From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, June 27: Two rival groups of students clashed on Chittagong Medical College campus this afternoon, witnesses said. No casualty was reported.

Police said the supporters of Chhatra Dal and Chhatra League chased each other during the clash blasting cocktails. No case was lodged.

The Principal of Chittagong Medical College Nurjahan Bhuiyan told The Daily Star that the clash had taken place between the supporters of Chhatra League and Chhatra Dal.

College Academic Council will meet tomorrow in the morning to discuss the campus situation, she said.