

## District roundup

### SIRAJGANJ

#### Unusual death of a boy

June 29: A school student got hanged while he was playing with a rope tied in a tree at Dhanbandhi area in the town on Sunday night, reports UNB.

Police said Abu Tarek (13), student of class VIII of Government BL High School and son of cement trader Abdul Latif, got suddenly hanged while he was playing at his residence.

An UD case was filed, with the police in this connection.

With this, four cases of killings were filed with the Sadar thana during the last three days.

### LALMONIRHAT

#### Harijan school opens

June 29: A Harijan school for the children of the sweepers of Lalmonirhat town was inaugurated at Store-para near sweeper colony here, reports BSS.

Deputy Commissioner, Lalmonirhat Kazi Farid Ahmed inaugurated the school established by 'Own Village Advancement' a local non-governmental organisation.

Thirty four children have been enrolled in the school register.

### TANGAIL

#### Workshop concludes

June 29: A four-day long workshop organised jointly by Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC), Tangail branch and Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industry Training Institute for the industrial entrepreneurs concluded here recently, reports BSS.

Secretary of the BSCIC Azhar Ali Talukdar was chief guest at the inaugural function. General Manager, Planning, BSCIC Abu Taher Khan Nasir and Assistant General Manager, BSCIC Tangail, Aminul Islam Chowdhury among others spoke on the occasion.

Participants stressed the need for establishment of more small and cottage industries in different areas of the country in the interest of the national economy.

### SATKHIRA

#### One held for smuggling

June 29: One Bangladeshi citizen was arrested from Balidanga-bazar in Kalaroa Thana of the frontier district on Sunday for his alleged involvement in smuggling, police and local people said, reports UNB.

He was identified as Abul Kashem of Baksha Balidanga of Kalaroa.

Local people of Balidanga-bazar recovered eight wrist watches worth about Taka 42,000 from his possession, on his way to neighbouring India. Later they handed him over to police.

A case was filed with the Satkhira Police. Kashem was sent to the thana for further interrogation.

### MANIKGANJ

#### Programme on Muharram begins

June 29: A ten-day long programme began at Garpara Imambari, two miles from here, on June 22 in observance of Muharram to mark the supreme sacrifices of Hazrat Imam Hasan (RA) and Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA) to establish truth and justice, reports BSS.

The programme includes milad mahfil, marcia narrating the events of Karbala, matam (mourning) and discussion on the lives and sacrifices of the Imam.

A mourning procession will be brought out on Thursday from Garpara to Manikganj town to mark Ashura.

### M'BAZAR

#### Fire breaks out: 5 shops gutted

June 29: Five shops were burnt to ashes when a devastating fire broke out at Chowdhury Bazar in Kularoa thana last week, reports UNB.

Property worth about Tk three lakh were completely gutted by the fire, local people and officials said here.

The fire originated from a shop and spread to the adjoining areas instantly causing heavy damage to the property, fire brigade sources said.

Being informed local fire brigade rushed to the spot and brought the fire under control with the help of local people.

### PATUAKHALI

#### 108 projects nearing completion

June 29: Work on 108 projects under Food for Work Programme (FWP) in six thanas of Patuakhali district will be completed soon, reports BSS.

According to an official source, the government sanctioned 2,080 metric tons of wheat for the implementation of the projects.

Thana-wise projects are as follows: Patuakhali Sadar 32, Bauphal 16, Dashmina 14, Galachipa 20, Kalapara 13 and Mirzaganj 13.

Work of the projects are repair of roads and embankments and excavation of ponds and canals.

### RAJBARI

#### Works for removal of rly tracks begin

June 29: Works for removal of railway tracks in Faridpur-Pukharia railline has begun recently after a long closure, reports UNB.

The Western Railway Authorities took the measures following declaration of rail service in the route unprofitable.

Meanwhile, demolition of Talma-Pukharia railway station and removal of guarders and railway tracks are going on in full swing.

The Executive Engineer of Rajbari Railway District said that it would take more than six months of remove the 25 km railway track.

The works are going on under strict police supervision, as the local people resisted the initiative several times earlier.

### MAGURA

#### AL leaders demand release of its MP

June 29: District Awami League leaders at a meeting here recently demanded immediate release of Hedaatullah Awrang MP and Leakat Hossain, says UNB.

Criticising the ruling BNP, the leaders said the government failed to maintain law and order across the country and resorted to oppressive measures towards the opposition to perpetuate its power.

Presided over by the party's local president Advocate Shaiful Islam the meeting was addressed, among others, by Advocate Serajul Islam, Advocate Kamal Hossain, Advocate Muniruzzaman, Golem Quddus and Abdul Mannan.

### DINAJPUR

#### Eight awarded 7 years RI for dacoity

June 29: Eight people were awarded to seven years rigorous imprisonment and fined Taka 3,000 each for committing dacoity, reports UNB.

The Additional District and Sessions Judge announced the judgement here on Sunday after examining witnesses and evidences.

The accused are identified as Moksed Ali, Khadem Uddin, Yakub Ali, Amin Uddin Paltan, Ashit Ranjan, Abdul Latif, Shorab Uddin and Moazzem Hossain.

According to the prosecution, a group of dacoits, including the accused, swooped on the house of Montu Chandra Roy in Chirribandar thana on June 16, 1989 and looted away valuables worth about Taka one lakh.

Police submitted charge sheets following a case filed by Montu Chandra Roy.

### SYLHET

#### Mob ransack doctor's chamber

June 29: Angry demonstrators stormed a doctor's chamber, injuring his assistant and brought out a procession at Zindabazar in the town on Monday protesting violation of a female patient, reports UNB.

The mob ransacked the chamber of local BMA unit president Prof. Dr. AM Raqib who was also a principal of Sylhet MAO Osmani Medical College (SMC) and injured his assistant Md Shahid in protest against the violation.

It has been reported that Dr. Golem Mustafa, Surgical Assistant of Gynaecology Ward of Osmani Medical College Hospital allegedly raped Asia Begum in the name of treatment on June 16.

All the doctors in the town shut down their chambers following the attack to avoid any untoward incident, local people said.



SIRAJGANJ: Bee farming is becoming popular in the district as it can be done in small and large scale. People are seen in the picture with bees (in the plate). — Star photo

## Handlooms closure leaves 80,000 weavers jobless

JESSORE, June 29: Nearly eighty thousand weavers have become unemployed with abrupt closure of twentyone thousand handlooms in eight thanas of the district recently, it is learnt.

According to information, abnormal price-hike of inputs including dyeing, yarn, chemicals and other raw materials, shortage of capital and failure to compete with the smuggled Indian sarrees, have led to this uneven situation.

Reports received here indicate that total number of handlooms in greater Jessore is over thirty eight thousand.

There are fourteen thousand handlooms at Mominnagar and Bagdunga of sadar and Kushore Kole of Monttramper thana in the district, and the rest are scattered throughout the district.

### From Our Correspondent

According to another source, over one lakh fourteen thousand weavers are directly linked with this profession while another seventy six thousand indirectly. Total number of weavers' family in the district is fifty six thousand, the source added.

It is informed that death of bank credit and government patronage have crippled this society forcing to live in sub-human conditions.

It can be mentioned here that a weavers' board to ensure inform development of their socio-economic life was constituted by the late President of Bangladesh in 1977 with commitment to see their total welfare.

But nothing tangible has yet been done for change of their lot despite hopes given by the present government.

Another report says: Shortage of thirteen thousand maunds cotton seeds from a godown at Panishara of Jhinkergacha thana in the district, has been reported recently, according to a source.

It is learnt that a local branch of nationalised bank advanced loan amounting to Taka twenty lakh against mortgage of godown containing twenty thousand maunds of cotton seeds in 1988.

Later, the bank management has sold the seeds on auction for recovery of loan money, following default of repayment within schedule by the loanee.

But only six thousand seven hundred ten maunds ten seers of seeds out of total were in stock. Sale proceeds of the seeds sold have come to Taka six lakh, thirty seven thousand only.

## Notes from Feni

FENI, June 29: Police arrested three dacoits from Luximpur in Sadar thana last week for their alleged involvement in a robbery, reports UNB.

They were identified as Abdul Kader, Nurullah and Abul Khair.

The dacoits allegedly stormed the house of Aziz Master at Luximpur village on June 19 and looted valuables including cash money.

### 10 injured in road accident

At least 10 people were injured when a passenger bus fell into a roadside ditch on Feni-Parshuram Road near Anandapur bridge last week.

Police and witnesses said the bus fell into the roadside ditch after its driver lost control over the vehicle.

Police seized the bus, but the driver managed to flee away.

A case was registered with local police in this connection.

### CI sheet for cyclone victims

The government has sanctioned 6,000 bundles of CI sheets for five thanas and pourashavas of the district under the cyclone rehabilitation programme.

Of the total, 1,480 bundles of CI sheets have been sanctioned for Feni Sadar thana, 1,032 for Parshuram, 1,702 for Sonagazi, 774 for Daganbhuyana, 700 for Chhagalnaiya and 312 for Feni pourashava.

The sheets will be distributed among the poor needy people of these regions officials sources said.

### Convicts surrender

Five convicts, of a sensational double-murder case, surrendered themselves before the District and Session Judge court recently, court sources said.

The convicts, Jakia Khatun, Abdul Khaleque, Abdul Kalam, Kala Miah and Kazi Shafique, were given one year rigorous imprisonment.

The court also fined Taka 5,000 each or in default to suffer six months more RI.

According to the case, Saleha Khatun (55) and her son Jaber Ahmed (18) were killed at Chandpur village in Sadar thana on April 5, 1990.

The court after examining witnesses and evidences found 16 people guilty, including the accused, and gave them different terms, including life sentence, in a verdict on April 18 last.

## Cotton cultivation scheme taken up

JHENIDAH, June 29: Cotton Development Board has taken an intensive programme to cultivate cotton on more than 18,600 hectares of land in greater Jessore district.

According to a source of the Cotton Development Board Jhenidah, Jessore, Narail and Magura have been divided into 36 units. Taka 45 lakh will be distributed among the cotton cultivators of these districts to make the programme a success.

The concerned farmers will be given training for cotton cultivation in scientific method and a good number of demonstration plots will be taken up for the purpose.

About four lakh 47 thousand 600 bags of cotton seeds worth about Taka 33 crore 75 lakh will be produced, the source expects.

### From Our Correspondent

cutive the work through Facilities Department and the work is expected to start within a very short time. The work is expected to be completed by August this year, the source said.

### Daring dacoity

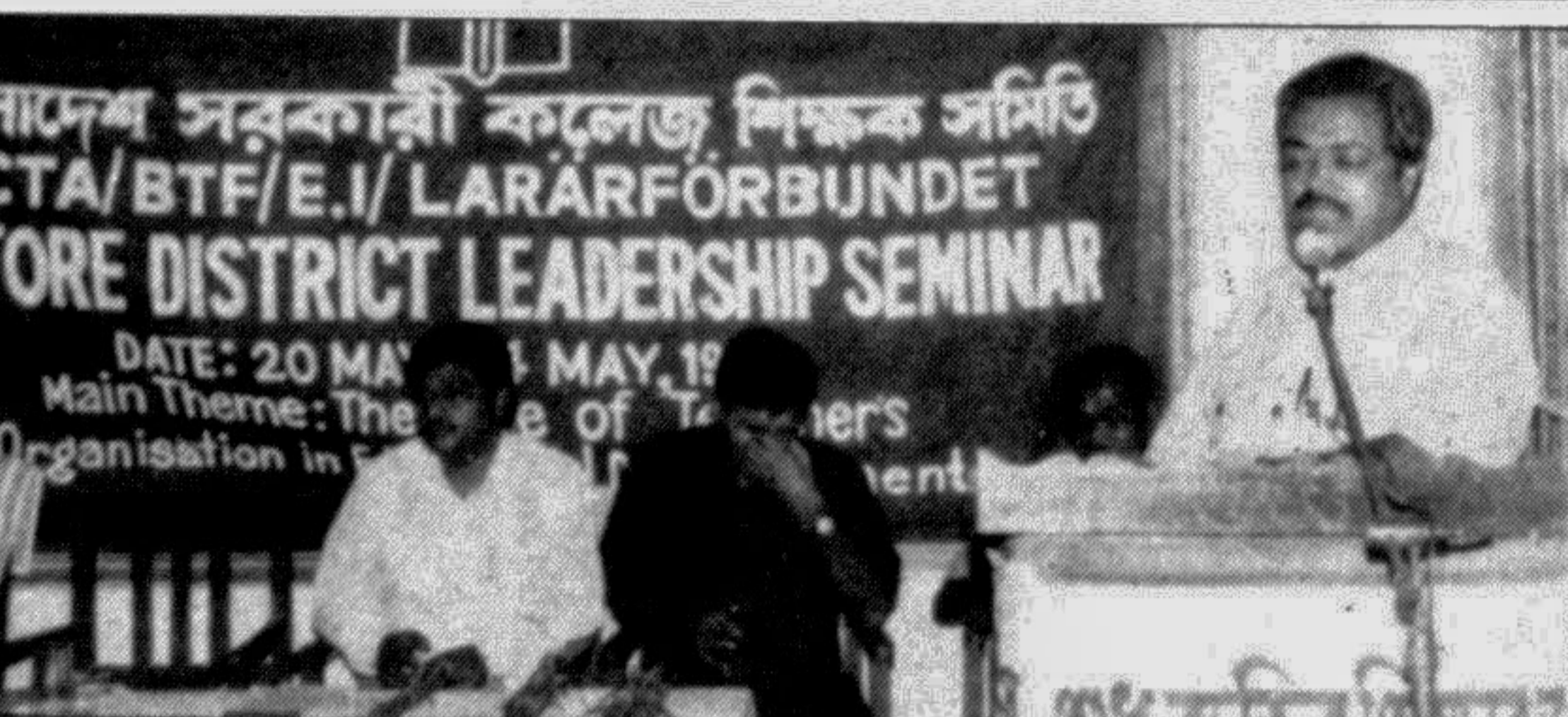
A daring dacoity was committed at Chaklapara near Jhenidah officers quarter of Jhenidah recently.

A case was registered with the Jhenidah thana but none was arrested so far.

### Tk 8 lakh sanctioned

Taka eight lakh was sanctioned for the reconstruction of Kotechandpur High School this year.

According to a source, Ministry of Education will ex-



NATORE: A K M Nazrul Islam, President of Bangladesh Govt College Teachers' Association local unit speaking at a training programme on 'The role of teachers' organisation in Education Department held at the PTI auditorium recently. — Star photo

## 20 projects completed in Patuakhali

### From Staff Correspondent

PATUAKHALI, June 29: About 20 projects have been completed in Mirzaganj thana of Patuakhali district under the Annual Development Schemes with an expenditure of about 20 lakh taka during the current financial year.

These projects include five projects in agriculture and irrigation sector, four projects in transportation and communication sector, two in education sector, one for development of hat and bazar and eight projects in maintenance sector.

With the completion of these projects, about three thousand hectares of land will come under regular irrigation facilities and production of crops will be increased.

It is learnt that about three crore taka as crop loan have been distributed among the farmers and about seven lakh taka among the fishermen for production of ropa aman boro, aus and other seasonal crops and fish production respectively during the current sea-

son. These loans have been disbursed by BKB in Patuakhali district.

Works on 80 projects are going on in full swing under Food for Works Programmes (FWP) in this season in Peropur district.

In Peropur, it is learnt that to implement these projects about two thousand metric tons of wheat have been allocated.

Of the total, 20 each projects in Peropur sadar and Nesarabad, 15 projects in Mathbaria, 10 project in Nazirpur and 15 project will be implemented in Kauhali thana during the season.

These projects included construction and reconstruction of bridges, culverts, roads, digging of canals and earth filling, raising and repair works of educational institutions of these thana areas.

Works of these projects will be completed soon — the source added.

Another report adds: Works of at least ten development

projects are nearing completion in Patharghata thana of Borguna district with an expenditure of more than ten lakh taka during the current financial year.

In Patharghata, these projects include construction and repairing of roads, auditoriums, boundary walls and four educational institutions.

Another report from Borguna adds: Construction work of nine primary schools in Amtali thana of the district are going on in full swing.

To implement these projects, about 38 lakh taka will be spent — and is expected to be completed soon.

### Poor condition of health complex

The Kalapara thana health complex and hospital of Patuakhali district is facing numerous problems causing immense sufferings to thousands of patients for a long time.

About 1,70,000 inhabitants of this thana area are depend-

ing on this hospital for medicare but patients are being deprived greatly of regular, proper and necessary treatment from this hospital.

Many patients informed that due to lack of life saving drugs, blood bank, surgical instruments, including an ambulance, patients are facing troubles. Moreover, there are no requisite number of blankets and mosquito nets in the hospital.

The hospital building is also in dilapidated condition. Owing to fund constraints the repair works could not be done in time — the concerned sources said.

Besides, many outdoor patients informed that they are not given necessary medicines from the hospital.

Local people also informed that doctors of this hospital mostly remain busy with their personal works and practice. They urge the concerned authorities to look after the problems to run this hospital in a smooth way.

## Road mishaps in B'baria: 2 killed, 12 injured

### From Our Correspondent

BRAHMANBARIA, June 29: Two persons were killed and 12 others injured in separate incidents on Dhaka-Sylhet highway at Bhabadpur under Ashuganj thana of the district when the driver of a Sylhet bound micro-bus lost control and hit a roadside tree.

Tula Mia (10) who was seriously injured was rushed to sadar hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. A case was filed with Ashuganj police station.

In another incident, an overspeeding truck coming from Comilla ran over Tarky Begum (8) at Sultanpur (Chowmahani) under Sadar thana. Tarky Begum died on the spot.

The driver however, man-

aged to flee with the vehicle. A case was filed with sadar thana. The bodies have been sent to Sadar hospital for autopsy.

### Flood situation unchanged

The flood situation in Brahmanbaria district remained unchanged. The river Titas and its branches have registered a sharp rise flowing 9 cm above the danger level.

Due to torrential rains and on-rush of water from Tripura, the low-lying areas of this district have been over flooded. All the 7 thanas of the district are affected. Crops like jute, aman, aush and vegetables of about 38 thousand acres of land of the district have been washed away.

## 72 industrial units set up in 17 months

CHAPAINAWABGANJ, June 29: A total of 72 new industrial units was set up in 16 northern districts of the country during the last 17 month, reports UNB.

Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) sources said the newly established industries include specialised textile mills, husking mills and power looms.

According to sources, the government, meanwhile, earned an amount of Taka 8,715 from the newly established industrial units. However, the collection from the units is not satisfactory, they added.

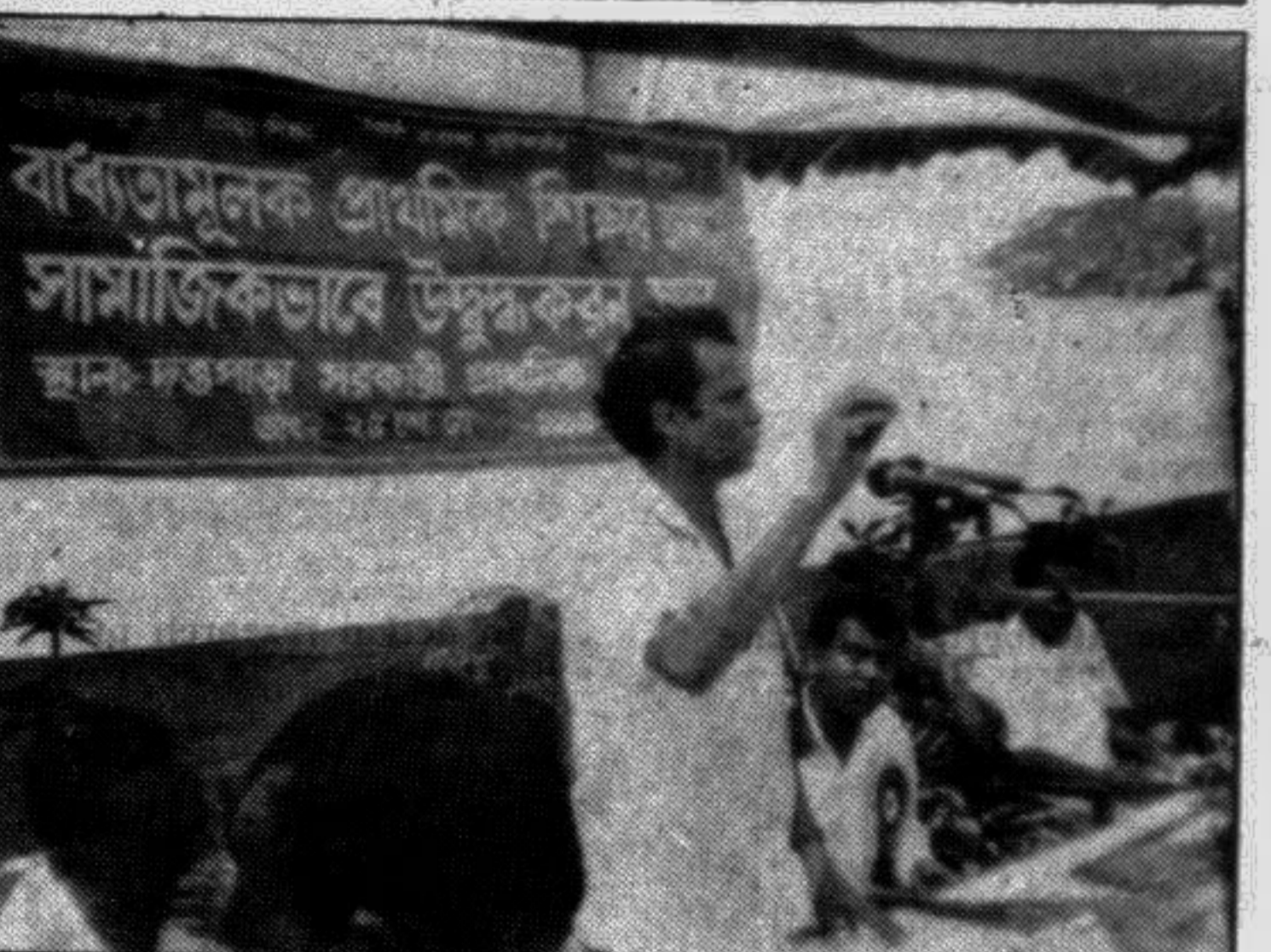
Only owners of 354 industrial units out of total 3,379 have renewed their licences. As a result the government is

being deprived of huge amount of money from this sector, sources said.

Another report says: Barindra Multipurpose Development Authority (BMDA) has taken up an elaborate programme to check desertification in northern region of the country.

The BMDA will plant 2,40,000 saplings, of both fruit bearing and non-fruit bearing trees, in the district during the current year to help maintaining ecological balance, officials sources said.

The saplings will be planted in fallow lands, alongside of the railway tracks, roads, embankments and the compound of educational institutions, hospitals and health centres.



GAZIPUR: Kalim Uddin, Director, Primary Education, Dhaka Division speaking at a motivation campaign gathering to make the compulsory primary education programme a success at local Datapara Ideal Government Primary School premises held recently. — Star photo

## Food for works programme WDB excavates 122 km canal in Bhola this year

PATUAKHALI, June 29: The local Water Development Board (WDB) has excavated about 122 km canal in Bhola during the current dry season under Food for Works Programme, reports UNB.

Official sources said about 2,835 metric tons of wheat were utilised for excavation

### 2 children killed in road mishaps

LALMONIRHAT, June 29: Two children were killed in two separate road mishaps on Lalmonirhat-Patgram highway on Thursday, reports UNB.

One of the victims, identified as Laboni (8), daughter of Abdul Jalil, driver of thana parishad, was runover by a speeding bus at Bhomari.

Earlier, an unidentified 10-year old blind girl received serious injuries when a truck hit her at Namri on the same route.

She was rushed to Rangpur Medical College Hospital where she breathed her last.

## Unsocial behaviour of policemen protested

MEHERPUR, June 29: Hundreds of villagers of Amjhupi in Sadar thana brought out a procession here on Saturday protesting alleged unsocial behaviour of a police personnel with two women, reports UNB.

The protesters handed over a memorandum to the district administration demanding punishment of the police personnel.

Villagers informed that a Sub-Inspector of Sadar thana Akkas Ali and some constables arrested two accused women from Amjhupi on June 19 at night and brought them to the town by their bicycle. The police personnel also enjoyed them.

When contacted, S I Akkas Ali, however, denied the allegations.

works in Bhola Sadar, Lalmonirhat and Borhanuddin thana.

About 5,000 metric tons of additional crop will be produced as 10,000 hectares of land have been brought under irrigation facilities by excavating the canals, they added.

Another report adds: Construction of nine primary schools, in Amtali thana of Barguna district, are going on in full swing.

Official sources said about Taka 36.80 lakh would be spent for construction of the schools, major portion of which has already been completed.

Official expected that the rest of the work will be completed soon.

According to sources, works of another 11 projects are also going on in full swing in Patharghata thana in the district at a cost of Taka 10.11 lakh.

The projects included construction of roads and development works of local Dak-Banglo.

## Jamuna erosion leaves 3,500 more homeless

SIRAJGANJ, June 29: At least 3,500 people of five villages of Shahajadpur thana were rendered homeless by erosion of the river Jamuna during the last 24 hours, reports UNB.

Kajipur Union Parishad Chairman said crops on 3,000 acres of land were damaged, five primary schools, and five mosques in the villages of Jaro Dighulia, Par Dighulia, Jitpur, Makra and Kurshi were destroyed by the river.

The homeless people took shelter on the embankment. The sources said diarrhoea and other water-borne diseases have broken out in the area and at least 50 people have been affected.