

District roundup

BARISAL

Construction of sluice gate nearing completion

July 7: Construction work on embankments and sluice gates at a cost of Taka 3.28 crore is nearing completion at Bakerganj thana, reports UNB.

Water Development Board is implementing the projects with the financial assistance from IDA.

According to official sources, about 20 km embankment has already been constructed. With the implementation of the project, about 700 hectares of land will be under the irrigation facilities.

Another report adds: Government has decided to install FAX machines at a cost of Taka 85 lakh in five district head post offices to provide FAX facilities to the local people.

The T&T Board sources said these machines will be installed at Barisal, Rajshahi, Bogra, Sylhet and Moulvibazar at the initial stage.

Another report says: The Barisal pourasava has announced its budget of Taka about 7.64 crore for the fiscal 1993-94.

The budget was declared by the Administrator of the municipality Ahsan Habib Kamal at a meeting held at the pourasava office on June 28.

In the budget, maximum income will come from the taxes, license fees, land revenue etc.

SATKHIRA

Five commit suicide

July 7: Five people allegedly committed suicide in Kalganj and Sadar thanas of the district on Sunday, reports UNB.

Family sources said Amena Khatun (54) wife of Fazar Ali of Ghusuray village was suffering from severe gastric pain and committed suicide by hanging. Jharna (18), daughter of Nirmal Narayanpur committed suicide by taking poison. Akhter (30) son of Ballak of Chumpul village committed suicide following a family feud, police said.

Shikha Rani (13) of Baichana and Nazrul Islam (20) son of Samsher of Ghona also allegedly committed suicide by taking poison.

TANGAIL

Lutfur visits Karatia Bazar

July 7: State Minister for Relief Lutfur Rahman Khan visited the fire-gutted Karatia Bazar of the district Monday, reports UNB.

The State Minister, on behalf of the Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, announced sanction of Tk one lakh and 100 bundles of CI sheet for rehabilitation of the affected shop owners.

Khan inspected the damaged shops and talked to the affected owners. He expressed his deep sympathy and called upon the people to face the disaster with courage and fortitude.

MADARIPUR

Five die in separate incidents

July 7: Five people died in separate incidents in Rajoir and Sadar thanas of the district in last one week, police and hospital sources said, reports UNB.

The victims were identified as: Mukta (4), daughter of Moniruzzaman Munshi of Sabmangal village, Alomati (44), wife of Sukhad Bala of Pakhulla village, Cheharan Begum (38), wife of Hafez Khalashi of Badar Pasha village and Jinal Bepary (75) of Teker Hat village in Rajoir thana and Hossain Sarder (50) of Rastr Charputia village in Sadar thana.

According to family sources, the minor girl Mukta drowned while she was taking her bath in a nearby pond. Jinal Bepary also met the same fate while he was taking bath in the Kumar river. Jinal had been suffering from epilepsy for a long time.

SIRAJGANJ

Flood situation deteriorates

July 7: Flood situation in the district deteriorated further with 50 more villages in three thanas inundated due to rise of water level in major rivers during the last 24 hours till 6 pm Monday, reports UNB.

Official sources said Jamuna, Ichhamati, Baral, Karotowa and Gomanai rivers swelled at least 4 cm during the period because of onrush of hilly water from across the border.

Crops on about 5,000 acres of land in the thanas - Kazipur, Chowdhali and Tarash - were damaged by the flood waters.

MYMENSINGH

Tk 24.23 cr BAU budget recommended

July 7: The Finance Committee of Bangladesh Agricultural University has recommended a Taka 24.23 crore budget for approval by the BAU Syndicate for the new fiscal year, reports UNB.

The recommendation was made in a special meeting of the Committee held at the University on June 29.

Vice Chancellor Prof M Ashraf Ali Khan presided over the meeting where Treasurer and Secretary of the Finance Committee Alhaj MZ Islam presented the budget.

The budget was prepared on the basis of ceiling fixed by the University Grants Commission against the demand budget of Taka 31.147 crore, submitted by BAU.

The committee also recommended for approval by the Syndicate the revised budget allocation for the year 1992-93 amounting to Taka 24.25 crore as fixed by UGC against the demand allocation of Taka 27.694 crore.

COMILLA

Villagers protest eviction

July 7: The inhabitants of 11 villages at Comilla Air Port area brought out a procession in the town on Sunday protesting attempts to evict their hearths and homes, reports UNB.

The protesters, led by Principal Abul Kalam Majumder, paraded the main thoroughfares of the town and chanted slogans in favour of their demand.

Earlier, they at a rally held at Thomsobridge Idgah Maidan, expressed determination to protect their homes and hearths even at the cost of their blood.

The rally declared a 24-day long programme including sit-in in front of the Deputy Commissioner's office on July 17, mass-hunger strike at Shahid Minar on July 21 and a 24-hour hartal at Biman Bandar area.

The government recently undertook steps to evict nearby areas of Comilla Air Port on the ground of setting up an army training zone.

JOYPUKHAT

Octogenarian woman killed

July 7: An octogenarian woman was killed when an autorickshaw hit her near Mangalbari Bazar in Sadar thana on Sunday, reports UNB.

Witnesses said Shafrun Beba (80) was knocked down by an autorickshaw while she was waiting on the road side. She succumbed to her injuries at Sadar Hospital.

A case was filed with the local police.

FENI

Highway robbery rampant

July 7: The inter-district transport workers here are scared about plying vehicles on the long route due to rampant highway robbery, reports UNB.

In a joint statement issued on Saturday, signed by three top leaders of the Feni District Transport Workers, said they would be compelled to stop the playing of long route night coach services if necessary measures were not taken by the concerned authorities.

They also demanded of the authorities to combat the growing menace and nab the robbers without further delay. They alleged that after repeated appeal, no step has yet been taken to save life of the travelling passengers.

It may be mentioned here that highway dacoity has become a regular feature on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway here and six highway dacoities took place on June 26 and 28.

JHENIDAH

40 injured in road mishap

July 7: Forty people were injured, 15 seriously when a night coach rammed with a roadside tree on Jhenidah-Jessore road in the town on Sunday night, reports UNB.

The accident occurred when the driver of the Dhaka-bound night coach coming from Darshana lost control over the steering of the coach after bursting its tyre and rammed against a roadside tree.

All the injured were admitted to Sadar Hospital. A case was filed with the police.

EAD, BCS officers' meet held in Barisal

BARISAL, July 7: A meeting of the co-ordination committee of the engineers, agriculturists, doctors (EAD) and BCS officers of Barisal division was held at the Sher-e-Bangla Medical College auditorium premises here on Friday, reports BSS.

Presided over by Dr Abdul Rashid, Head of the Surgery Department, Sher-e-Bangla Medical College, the meeting was addressed among others by Professor Abu Yusuf, Agriculturist Javed Iqbal, Engineer Ruhul Matin, Dr Mustak Hossain, Engineer Ibrahim Mian, Engineer Nurul Huda, Dr Azizul Huq and Professor Kudrat-e-Khuda.

About 500 BCS teachers, engineers, agriculturists and doctors from six southern districts of Barisal division participated in the meeting.

Condition of launch terminals deplorable

NARAIL, July 7: Riverine passengers in the district are facing untold sufferings due to deplorable conditions of Rupganj bazar, Kalia and Gazirhat launch terminals, reports UNB.

Local people said the terminals have no pouton and gangway to move the passengers who travel from Khulna, Gopalganj via Bordia.

At least five river vehicles ply through the terminals daily, but there were no arrangements for safe movement of the passengers.

Ghat labourers said the terminals have been lying almost unusable for the last few years, creating hazards in loading and unloading of goods.

Local leaders urged the concerned authorities to take repairment works of the terminals and replace them immediately.

3 minor boys drowned

SIRAJGANJ, July 7: Three minor boys drowned in ponds in four thanas of the district during last two days, reports UNB.

The victims were identified as Hannan (12), son of Hafizuddin and Badal (10), son of Shabudul of Kudrona village in Tarash thana and Moslim (12), son of Abdul Pramanik of Chatekani in Kazipur.

Police and family sources said the boys met their tragic end of their lives while they were trying to learn how to swim in ponds.

Meanwhile, two people died by snake-biting in two thanas during the same period.

The deceased were Joynal (20), son of Abdul Hakim of Isla village in Rayganj thana, and Nur Mohammad (40) of Harinahata village in Sadar thana.

One killed, 5 hurt in Jhenidah road mishap

JHENIDAH, July 7: A man was killed and five others were injured when a speeding truck hit an auto-rickshaw near Jhenidah Cadet College here today, reports UNB.

The deceased was identified as Abdul Khaleque, 55, of Barbari village in Sadar thana. According to eye-witnesses, a Shaikupa-bound auto-rickshaw from Jhenidah turned turtle after being hit by the truck on Jhenidah-Kushtia highway at about 11:45 am. The man was killed on the spot.

The injured were admitted to local clinics.

84 smugglers arrested

SATKHIRA, July 7: Law enforcing agency personnel arrested eightyfour smugglers from various areas of the border belt under Satkhira district and recovered smuggled goods worth Taka three crore thirtythree lakhs sixtyseven thousand and nine during the period between March one and June 15, reports BSS.

According to an official source the goods included machinery parts, bicycles, phenidyl syrup, medicine, sugar, hides and skins, onion, garlic, mango, dry chill, imitation ornaments, hilsha fish, polyester, tecton cloth, gold, brassmetals and garments.

2 school boys electrocuted

PABNA, July 7: Two school boys were electrocuted in Kakorkata village in Sadar thana when they were returning home from school this morning, police said, reports UNB.

The victims, Zahir Hossain (11) and Sabuj (11), students of Jalalpur Primary School were killed when they came in contact with a loose electric wire on the street.

Sabuj, son of Torab Ali of Goyeshpur village got electrocuted when he came to rescue Zakhir, son of Abdur Rahman of Kakorkata village.



MYMENSINGH: Professor Anwarul Hakim Khan speaking at the Rabindra-Nazrul Joyanti programme organised by Mymensingh Press Club at its auditorium recently. Also seen in the picture (from left) are Md Nowab Ali, Prof. Jatin Sarker and Prof. Shahjahan Hafiz. — Star photo

Son gets life-term for killing father in Sylhet

SYLHET, July 7: The Additional District and Sessions Judge, Third Court (Incharge), Sunil Chandra Paul, while passing his judgement in a case found one person guilty of killing his father and sentenced him to suffer life-long imprisonment and to pay a fine of Taka 3,000 in default to suffer rigorous imprisonment for three months more.

The prosecution case in brief is that on the 10th of March, 1973 the accused Kutub Ali of village Lama Mohail under Jaintapur thana of Sylhet district hit his father Abru Miah with a sharp weapon (dao) at a stage of family feud. Abru Miah died on the spot. His brother Abdul Jalil filed a case with the police station just after the murder. The police, after investigations, submitted chargesheet against the accused person Kutub Ali.

It may be stated here that the accused was only a boy of 10 years at the time of the incident. The police arrested him in the month of August of 1991, after about one and a half decades of the incident as the accused Kutub Ali had been at large over the period.

The court after examining all

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the witnesses passed the aforesaid judgement.

AJP Mahmud Hossain conducted the case.

Boy killed in road accident

A 15-year-old school boy was killed in a road accident on the Sylhet-Jakiganj highway at a place near the Kuchal Union Parishad office of Sadar thana on Wednesday afternoon.

According to a police source, the victim Mamun was returning home from school by a motorcycle and met the accident as he lost control. He hails from village Chandnighat of Jhalopara under Sadar thana.

Landlord killed

A landlord was killed in the hands of some farm labourers following a scuffle over sharing of crops.

The incident took place at village Banshtala under Banglabazar union of Doarabazar thana of Sunamganj district recently.

According to a report, a quarrel took place between the labourers and the landlord Abdul Khaliq in the filed on June 17 last concerning share of paddy. The following night, he was called out of his house

and stabbed to death with sharp weapons.

Police visited the village after registration of a case in this connection and sent the body to the Sunamganj Sadar Hospital for post-mortem.

Body of woman recovered

The body of an unknown young woman was recovered from Shah Eidgah area of Sylhet town on Wednesday last.

On information, Sylhet Kotwali police recovered the body and sent it to Sylhet M A G Osmany Medical College Hospital for post-mortem.

A case of unnatural death has been filed with the police.

Young man killed

A young man named Nesafar Ali was killed in a road accident that took place at Burunga on the Dhaka-Sylhet highway on Wednesday.

The victim (18) was hit by a speeding babytaxi. He succumbed to his injuries at Sylhet M A G Osmany Medical College Hospital.

A case of unnatural death was filed with the police.

18 km-long Madaripur-Shariatpur road yet to be completed

MADARIPUR, July 7: The construction work of 18.23 km-long Madaripur Shariatpur road remains incomplete for want of requisite funds.

The work began during the financial year 1979-80. The estimated cost for the work was Tk 13.29 crore.

The Roads and Highways Department (R&H) source informed this correspondent that only 50 per cent work of the road has been completed with three km carpeting during the last 12 years.

From Our Correspondent

About taka 32.35 lakh was sanctioned for work last year and no more fund was available during the current fiscal year, the source said.

Heavy transport can not ply due to the deplorable condition of the road from Khoazpur to Takerhat.

Due to lack of maintenance and necessary repair work, the condition of about 15 km of the road has become deplorable.

On the other hand, no arrangements have yet been made to introduce ferry services on

the river Kirtinasha in spite of repeated appeals to the concerned authorities.

23 posts lying vacant

At least 23 posts of District Family Planning Officer have been lying vacant for a long time affecting family planning activities.

According to official sources, of the vacant posts are: three for medical assistants, seven for family planning assistants, two for supervisors, one for medical officer, one for accountant, one for stenotypist and eight for Ayas.

Govt college faces problems

Academic activities of Barhamgonj Government College is being hampered due to various problems.

Founded in 1964, the college has now only 16 teachers for about 2,000 students. Both the teachers and students are facing accommodation problems. There is no hostel for the students of the college and no residential accommodation for the principal.

After the nationalisation, 12 teachers of the college have been transferred to other places. As a result, most of the departments of the college are facing set back.

Moreover, the students are suffering from acute shortage of classrooms, benches, books, sports materials and other necessary appliances. Cracks have developed on the roof of the 2nd floor of the college building.

The guardians have urged the authorities to look into the matter and solve the problems to ensure smooth education of the college.

Two commit suicide

Two housewives committed suicide in the district during the last week.

Alomoti Rani (45) wife of Sukh Chand Bala of Amgram village and Cheharan Begum (45) of Durgabardi in Rajoir thana committed suicide by taking insecticide.

The causes behind their death could not be known immediately. Two separate UD cases were filed with Rajoir thana in this connection.

130 projects, completed in Barisal last yr

BARISAL, July 7: A total of 130 projects was implemented, in ten thanas of Barisal district at an allocation of 4,037 metric tons of wheat under Food-for-Work Programme during the last dry season, reports BSS.

According to an official source, the projects included construction of 110 roads, excavation of 13 canals and levelling of seven ditches.

Of the total, 22 projects were executed in Barisal sadar thana at an allocation of 649 metric tons of wheat, seven in Muladi at an allocation of 276 metric tons of wheat, 21 in Bakerganj at an allocation of 660 metric tons of wheat, eight in Gournadi at an allocation of 305 metric tons of wheat, 15 in Mehendiganj at an allocation of 408 metric tons of wheat, nine in Babuganj at an allocation of 305 metric tons of wheat, 11 in Banaripara at an allocation of 362 metric tons of wheat, 10 in Agailjhara at an allocation of 194 metric tons of wheat six in Hizla at an allocation of 283 metric tons of wheat and 21 in Wazirpur at an allocation of 515 metric

tons of wheat. Barisal Social Welfare Department has solemnised marriage ceremony of five girls of Barisal Shishu Paribar on Tuesday in the Sagardi Shishu Paribar premises with much enthusiasm.

Deputy Commissioners, Mamta Uddin, Additional Deputy Commissioner Abdul Khalek, Paura Prashasak Ahsan Habib Kamal, Deputy Director of Social Welfare M A Mannan and Deputy Superintendent of Barisal Shishu Paribar N U K Hasina Begum were present in the ceremony along with elite of the town.

Different organisations, persons, social welfare department and shishu paribar donated goods, utensils and ornaments.

Thana courts of Gournadi, Babuganj and Bakerganj have been shifted to the district headquarters at Barisal with effect from June 30.

According to district administration office sources, seven thana courts were shifted earlier to the district headquarters.

Waiving of duty on import of textile raw materials demanded in Natore

From Our Correspondent

NATORE, July 7: Bangladesh Textile Industries Federation (BTIF) a prominent organisation comprising 14 different associations in the textile sector, demanded to waive all duty and fees on import of textile raw materials like cotton, yarn, synthetic fibre, dye, chemical etc.

The convener of the federation Col (Retd) Kazi Salmuddin told The Daily Star that the entire textile sector was facing crisis due to duty and tariff policy of the present democratic government.

The crisis further led to unprecedented rise in smuggling of fabrics threatening the very existence of local textile industries.

He also demanded with drawal of excise duty on fabrics and appealed not to impose fresh duty on finished fabrics.

The federation further called upon the government to implement programmes for rehabilitation, modernisation and balancing the existing textile industries. Demand was also made for setting up new units in power loom, hosiery, dyeing, finishing, Terrytowel, socks, tapelace and garment accessories.

The federation convener further stated that our textile industries had the potential to meet our local and export demand created by our garments manufacturing units.

He regretted that due to imposition of duty and tax, the price of yarn had gone up by 86 per cent. In case of synthetic yarn, it went up by 94 per cent. Higher prices of imported yarn had not only provoked windfall profit to local spinners but also encouraged smuggling of foreign yarn, he added.

Tk 1.57 cr budget for Natore pourasava

From Our Correspondent

NATORE, July 7: Paura Chairman Khondokar Jubayer Hossain presented a balanced annual budget of Taka 1 crore 57 lakh 18 thousand and 69 of the Natore pourasava for the fiscal 1993-94 on June 30.

Presenting the budget in the packed conference room of the pourasava, the Chairman said that there was no proposal for imposition or increase of any new tax for the poura people.

The Chairman further disclosed that Taka 70 lakh was allocated for the development and government will provide Taka 50 lakh as special grant while the pourasava will earn

about Tk. 1.32 crore as revenue. Taka 9 lakh 60 thousand is a mentionable income estimate from buses, trucks and bazaars. The authority will plant saplings in poura areas at a cost of Taka 40 lakhs. It will also construct puca drains, dustbins and reconstruct the bus-terminal, different roads, bazaars and grave yards. The Chairman also said that the number of street-lights will be increased as early as possible.

Later, the poura authority arranged a dinner which was participated by DC Natore, ADM, ADC (General) ADC (Revenue), local elite and journalists.

700 smugglers surrender in Jhenidah

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, July 7: Seven hundred smugglers have surrendered to the BDR Battalion Commandant Lieutenant Colonel Saiful Islam at Kusumpur BDR Camp in Mohespur thana on Monday.

It is reported that the smugglers admitted their involvement in evil activities.

Thana Nirbahi Officer (TNO), UP Chairman and other local elite of Mohespur thana were present on the occasion.

JSD meeting held

A meeting of Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) was held as a part of central coordination programme at Jhenidah Bar Library with Marwar Hossain, District Committee president in the chair.

Sharif Nurul Ambia, joint secretary JSD Central Committee attended as the chief guest while Masuzzaman Firoz, central member of Chhatra League (EJK), Advocate Ismail Hossain (Istia), Mahirul Islam and Aminul Islam (Lal) took part in the discussion.

Two arrested

Saalkupa thana police arrested two armed miscreants including an armed activist of outlawed Sarbaha Party and recovered one revolver with two rounds of bullets from village Bagutia recently.

Report says that acting on a secret information, police personnel led by OC of Saalkupa

thana raided the house of one Gokul Sardar and arrested Ripon (22) and Asadul (28) of village Hatfaizpur in Saalkupa thana.

Ripon was wanted by police, says an official of the police department. A case had been filed in this connection.

Minor boy killed in Manikganj

MANIKGANJ, July 7: A teen-aged boy was killed and five others were injured when a car mangled passers-by at Jaigir bus stand of sadar thana Monday afternoon, police said, reports UNB.

The accident occurred when a speedy truck rammed against the car of BWTC.

The dead was identified as Rabul (18) of Uchuttia village of sadar thana. Of the injured, two were admitted to sadar hospital. The body was sent to the hospital for autopsy.

Driver of the truck fled away along with his vehicle.

In another incident, five cows worth Tk 50,000 were electrocuted when an electric wire fell on the cow in Muljan village of sadar thana.

District PDB sources said the wire was snapped due to shortcircuit. Power supply was disrupted for nine hours from 10 am in Shibalaya, Dartrampur and Ghior thana following the incident.