

District roundup

MYMENSINGH

BAU cultural festival held

Aug 9: A three-day log literary and cultural festival under the auspices of BAUCSU was held at the Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin auditorium of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) recently, reports BSS.

The inaugural function was presided by Prof M R H Bhuiyan. It was attended by Prof M Abdul Haque, dean of the faculty of agriculture and convener of the council of deans of BAU Prof M Mafuzur Rahman, treasurer of BAUCSU and Shahadat Hossain Chanchal, GS of BAUCSU.

Prof Abdul Haque in his speech said literature and culture bear the inner spirit of national life. We should concert our endeavours to be imbued with the spirit of nationalism. This festival of BAUCSU tends to attain that goal.

Termining agricultural education as a technical one, the chief guest said that it had a deep linkage with the culture and traditions of our country. He urged the students to be involved in the creative literary and cultural activities in order that they come closer to the soil of Bangladesh.

M'BAZAR

College facing various problems

Aug 9: Moulvibazar Womens' College is facing various problems hampering education greatly, reports UNB.

Established in the year 1985 with the donation of the local people the college is facing acute fund shortage. The college is unable to accommodate the growing number of students due to shortage of space.

The college got affiliation in 1987. At present there are 20 teachers in the college who are facing a number of problems in giving classroom teaching in the absence of adequate chairs, benches and scientific apparatus.

The library of the college is not well equipped with modern books and other facilities causing problems to students and teachers alike.

The students, particularly from urban areas, have been facing great difficulties in the absence of hostel. Many students meanwhile, abandoned their education due to lack of hostel facilities.

Local elite have urged the government to include the womens' college under the development programme to facilitate girls education in the district.

COMILLA

One awarded one yr RI for smuggling

Aug 9: A man was awarded one year rigorous imprisonment and fined Taka 1,000 and in default to suffer RI for three months more for smuggling Indian goods, court sources said Saturday, reports UNB.

The convicted was identified as Murshid Mia son of late Kartmuddin of Saidad village in Homna thana.

The case, in brief, was that Murshid was arrested from a Dhaka bound launch on September 8, 1992 by the police following a tip-off and recovered Indian dyes from his possession.

After examining the witnesses and records Md Nurul Wadud, Additional Sessions Judge 1st Court, found the accused guilty and sentenced him recently.

TANGAIL

Vaccination programme

Aug 9: Lauhati Arfan Khan Livestock Welfare Centre under Nagarpar thana of Tangail district vaccinated 17,972 cattle in 1992-93 fiscal year, reports BSS.

Lauhati Livestock Welfare Centre established in the most interior village in 1957 has taken up multifarious programmes to develop cattle and poultry population in the area.

District Livestock Officer (DLO), Tangail Dr Fariduddin said here that 235,615 poultry birds were vaccinated here in the last fiscal year. Besides this, the centre distributed improved variety of chicken among the people.

Abdul Jalil Miah, Officer-in-charge of the centre said that there are four poultry farms, four goat farms and four sheep farms under this centre.

The centre has been growing improved varieties of grass including para, nopter, gini, eptir-german, glycine coper, cow-pea, cerato and maize in its premises for distribution among the farmers, he said.

JAMALPUR

Fishery Fortnight '93 inaugurated

Aug 9: Deputy Minister for Health and Family Welfare Strajul Haque Monday inaugurated fish fortnight '93 in the district, reports BSS.

Haque released fish fry in Brahmaputra river at Jamalpur. District fishery department chalked out a programme for the fortnight.

Strajul Haque in his speech in a function organised on the occasion urged all including officials to make the programme of the week success.

Presided over by Nikoonya Bihari Nath, ADM, the function was addressed among others by Fazlur Rahman, Paurasava Chairman and Mahfuzur Rahman, District Fishery Officer.

RAJBARI

'Pisciculture can give economy a strong base'

Aug 9: State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahan-Ara Begum Saturday said, pisciculture could be a new measure to give our economy a strong base, reports BSS.

She said this while addressing two separate gatherings at the Rajbari police line and Goalando thana parishad premises organised to release fish fry on the occasion of observance of the country-wide fish fortnight.

Referring to the growing demand of protein the state minister said that the present government has attached top priority for turning pisciculture and poultry farming as social movements to meet the demand. She sought cooperation from private organisations as well as people of all walks of life to come forward in this regard.

Prof Jahan-Ara Begum said national economy would be developed if we could create favourable atmosphere in the rural economy. As a result the country would be self-reliant in every sector, she added.

SIRAJGANJ

One killed, 15 injured in separate incidents

Aug 9: At least 15 people were injured, one of them seriously, in two separate accidents in Belkuchi thana on Friday, reports UNB.

In the first incident, seven people were injured when dacoits swooped on a boat, ferrying a group of cloth merchants from Shohagpur, in the mid-Jamuna.

The dacoits, numbering 15, came in a mechanised boat and looted belongings worth Taka 80,000 from the cloth merchants. Seven people were wounded in scuffle.

In another incident, a group of dacoits attacked the house of Mazen Khan at Gopalpur in Belkuchi thana on Friday night and assaulted the inmates.

Another businessman, Ziaul Adedin (35), was killed by miscreants at Barkul village in broad day light last Tuesday.

NETRAKONA

UP chairman arrested with arms

Aug 9: Chairman of Katiati Union Parishad in Sadar thana was arrested early Saturday along with a revolver and two bullets, police said, reports UNB.

Sohrab Mia, also a leader of the district BNP, was wanted by police in two cases, including a murder case.

Acting on a information, police raided the house of Anwar Hossain at Gandharbopur in Sadar thana at 3:20 am and nabbed both Sohrab and Anwar.

A new case was filed with the local thana under the Arms Act against the accused. Both were sent to jail.

NARSINGDI

Five thousand children vaccinated

Aug 9: Five thousand children have been given vaccinations against six fatal diseases under Extended Programme of Immunization (EPI) in six thanas of Narsingdi district in July, reports BSS.

The prevention covers tuberculosis, measles, whooping cough, diphtheria, polio and tetanus.

The thanas are Raipura, Belabo, Monohardi, Shibpur, Palash and Narsingdi sadar.

BKB fails to achieve agri loan target in Jessore

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE, Aug 9: The Jessore regional branch of Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKB) failed to achieve its disbursement target of agriculture loan during the fiscal year 1992-93.

The bank disbursed only Taka 3,72,50,00 through its 18 branches during the year while the target was fixed at Taka 9,82,48,000, it is learnt.

It is reported that the branches of the bank did not follow the pass book procedure to disburse loans.

Some farmers informed that they failed to get loan as they could not fulfil the requisite formalities. Some staff of few branches failed to supply form as there was no loan form in their branches.

It is complained that some middlemen in cooperation with some staff of the branches manage to get loan.

It is further informed that the bank staff use to sanction loan in some unproductive sectors, like cinema hall, transport, hotel and restaurant.

According to informed source, Jessore branch disbursed Taka 69,50,000 against the target of Taka 1,77,69,000 during the period.

Disbursement by Rupdia branch stood Taka 39,30,000 while the target was Taka 55,75,000.

Monirampur branch disbursed Taka 11,39,000, and the target was Taka 65,77,000. Gopalpur branch disbursed Taka 14,66,000 while the target was Taka 46,70,000.

Kuada Bazar branch disbursed Taka 13,14,000 against the target of Taka 47,05,000. Similar is the position of Keshabpur branch. It disbursed Taka 37,52,000 while the target was Taka 68,45,000.

Bagherpara branch disbursed Taka 34,22,000 against the target of Taka 93,33,000.

Nowapara branch disbursed Taka 22,20,000 against the target of Taka 43,90,000. Moshihat branch disbursed Taka 3,92,000 while the target was Taka 22,65,000. Jhikergacha branch disbursed Taka 10,43,000 against the target of Taka 28,49,000.

Navaran branch disbursed Taka 16,92,000 while the target was Taka 55,80,000. Sharsa branch disbursed Taka 40,07,000 while the target was Taka 92,44,000.

Lokmanpur branch disbursed Taka 21,68,000 against the target of Taka 46,12,000. Chowgacha branch disbursed Taka 19,48,000 while the target was Taka 72,33,000.

Narayanpur branch disbursed Taka 6,74,000 against the target of Taka 30,88,000. Jogodishpur branch Taka four lakh forty-nine thousand while the target was Taka fourteen lakh forty thousand.

Kayemkola branch disbursed Taka ten lakh forty-seven thousand against the target of Taka

thirtysix lakh five thousand. Hashimpur branch disbursed Taka nine lakh twenty four thousand while the target was twenty six lakh fifty six thousand.

70 UD cases recorded

A total of 70 Unnatural Death (UD) cases including 32 murders, 24 suicide and 14 road accidents were recorded during the last one month, according to a source.

It is learnt that the total number of UD cases in Kotwali was 53. It included 32 murders, eleven road accidents and ten suicide cases.

Number of UD cases in Bagherpara thana was two. Both the cases were suicidal. Number of such cases in Obhatnagar thana was three, one was murder, one road accident and one suicide.

In Chowgacha thana, the number of UD cases was two, both being suicidal. Number of such cases was six in Jhikergacha thana. Two were murder, one was road accident and other two were suicidal.

In Sharsa thana, the number was four. Three of them were murders and one was suicide by hanging.

There occurred six such cases in Monirampur. It included two murders, one road accident and three suicides by taking insecticides.

Keshabpur thana record is four of such cases including one murder and three by taking poison.

It is learnt that post-mortem report of most cases are still pending with hospital authorities. Only one such report of murder case has been received at Kotwali so far where it has been given the findings that Arifin Nesa, was beaten to death, police have arrested her husband and mother-in-law.

Diarrhoea breaks out in M'baraz

From Our Correspondent

MOULVI BAZAR, Aug 9: Diarrhoea has broken out in flood affected villages of Mulvi bazar district.

According to sources, the disease claimed at least 12 lives in the villages of Mujaffar and Anteh Hari under sadar and Rajnagar thanas respectively.

The victims hail from the Kawadighi Haor area which was severely affected by recent flood.

The diarrhoea victims could not be cremated due to want to dry land.

Fishermen will get incentives to increase fish output

PABNA, Aug 9: State Minister for Communications Fazlur Rahman has said, arrangements would be made to provide incentives to the fishermen for their significant role in boosting fish production in the country, reports BSS.

Addressing a function organised in observance of Fisheries Fortnight '93 at local Banamaly Auditorium recently, the State Minister said, the government had launched the programme in a new dimension to alleviate poverty, increase supply of protein and earn foreign currency through increasing fish production.

Rahman said, we should persevere the programme in our routine life and not confine it within the ceremonial activities. The State Minister advised the concerned officials to chalk-out plan to lease out the khas and fallen water bodies among

the fishermen and unemployed youth on cooperative basis.

Pointing to Pabna irrigation project at Ichchamati Canal, the State Minister said, the project might be a vast resource of fish production. He asked the concerned officials to formulate a plan of pisciculture in the project.

Later, Rahman released fish fry at a pond. About eight lakh fish fry will be released in different water bodies of the district during the fish fortnight.

UNB reports says: Chhatra League (M-I) called an eight-hour hartal in the town on Wednesday demanding immediate arrest of the killers of its leader Ranju gunned down in a clash between two student groups on May 16.

Police had chargesheeted 39 workers of Jattatabadi Chhatra Dal in connection with the murder of Ranju. None has yet

been arrested. Earlier, General Secretary of the district Awami League Rezauul Karim Lal alleged in press conference that police lathcharged a protest rally of Chhatra League, injuring 20, four seriously.

The flood situation in the district deteriorated on Monday further with the rise of water level in the river Jamuna and heavy rainfall during the last 24 hours.

Official sources here said some 10,000 people were marooned and standing crops on about 30,000 acres of land were damaged in Bera, Shathia, Chatmohor, Faridpur and Vangura thanas.

Local administration distributed Taka 50,000 in cash and 100 metric tons of rice among the affected people during the last seven days.

5.85 lakh bales jute expected

PATUAKHALI, Aug 9: A Total of 5.85 lakh bales of jute is likely to be produced on 59,900 hectares of land in 11 southern districts of the country during the current season, reports UNB.

Official sources said, a total of 75,000 kgs of high yielding variety of seeds was distributed among the farmers to make the scheme success.

They said of the total target, 15,435 bales of jute will be produced on 1,591 hectares in Barisal, 1,252 bales on 130 hectares in Pirojpur, 398 bales on 42 hectares in Jhalakathi, 583 bales on 61 hectares in Patuakhali; 486 bales on 50 hectares in Barguna, 1941 bales on 201 hectares in Bhola.

Besides, 2,03,486 bales on 20,979 hectares in Faridpur, 1,24,160 bales on 12,801 hectares in Madaripur, 36,662 bales on 6,564 hectares in Gopalganj, 100,909 bales on 10,404 hectares in Rajbari and 68,153 bales on 7,027 hectares will be produced in Shariatpur districts.

Works on 61 projects in progress

The works on 61 projects in four southern districts under Facilities Department of Education Ministry are going on in full swing.

Official sources said the government sanctioned Taka 1,41,30,000 for implementing the projects in Barisal, Jhalakathi, Bhola and Pirojpur districts under Barisal Edu-

cation circle in the last fiscal year.

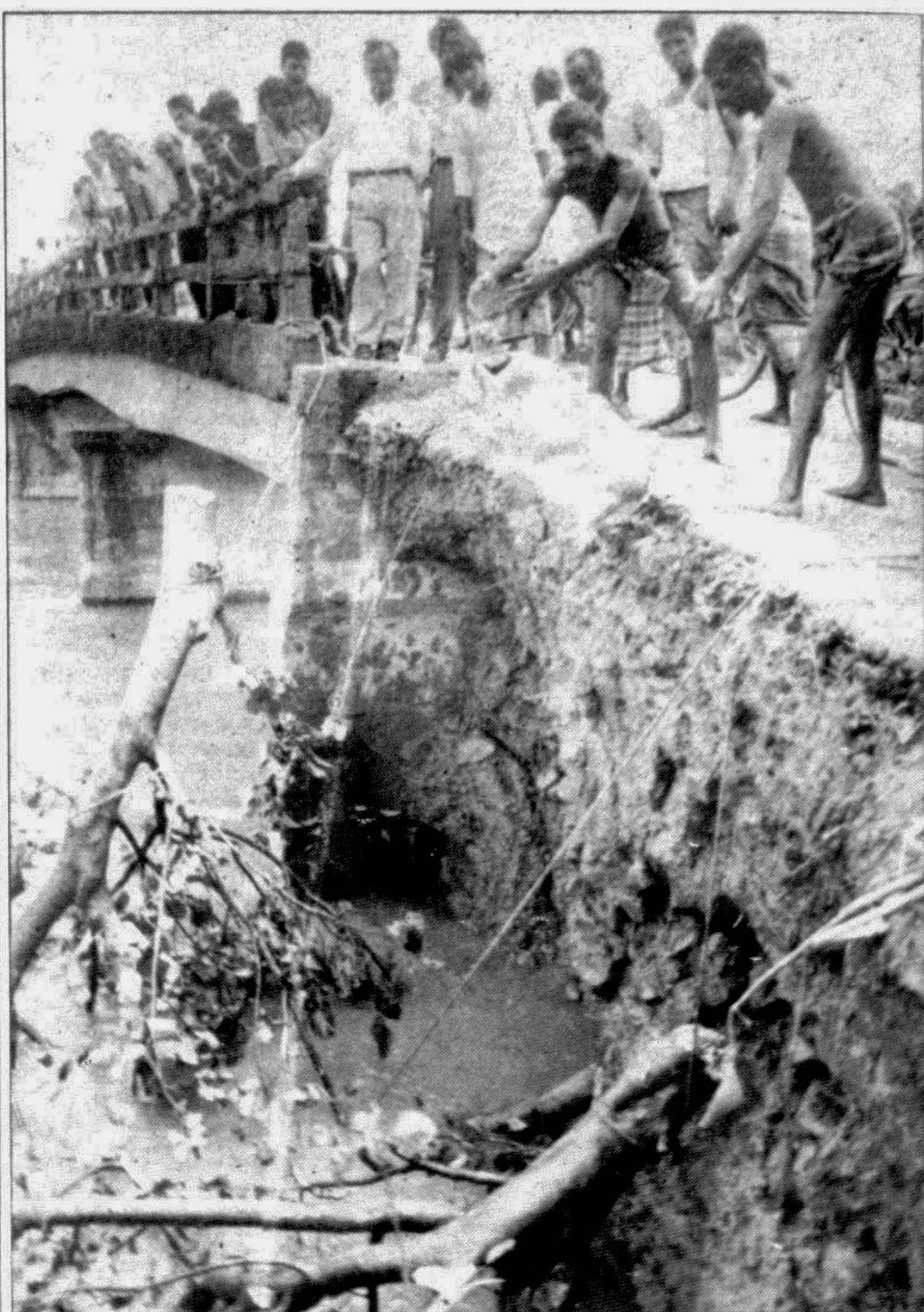
The works on the projects, including repair and renovation of government primary schools, are expected to be completed by August next, officials said.

Of the total, 28 projects are being implemented in Barisal, nine in Jhalakathi, 15 in Bhola and 13 in Pirojpur districts.

With the implementation of the projects primary education in these districts will get further boost.

Afforestation plan taken up

Forest Department has undertaken a scheme to bring 1,200 acres of land under afforestation in the coastal areas of the district in the current season.

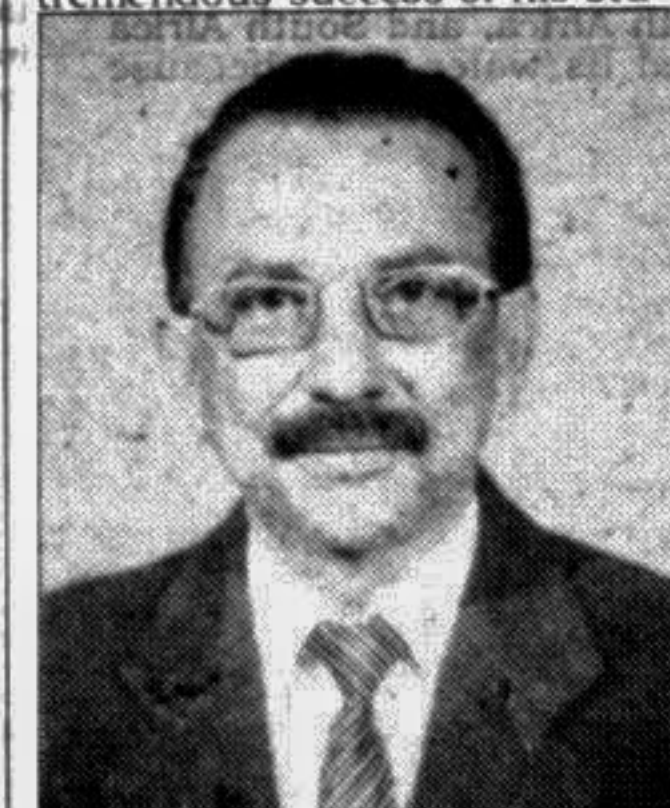


NETRAKONA: People are seen struggling hard to save the Rajurbazar Bridge in the district from erosion during the time of flood. — Photo by A K M Mohsin

Teachers, students endeavour helped success: Principal

by Staff Correspondent

Principal of Pabna Cadet College, Abul Ashraf Noor, when contacted to comment on the tremendous success of his stu-



Abul Ashraf Noor

dents said this had been possible because of their self-confidence and the self-development which he considered as the most important criteria to be successful.

It may be mentioned here that students of Pabna Cadet College secured 17 top places in the combined list.

The system, adopted in the cadet college, provided the students a suitable environment to grow up naturally with all good qualities, he said and added that the teachers of the college had also a role to solve their problems instantly by making follow ups of their lectures.

He said, weaknesses of the individual students were observed closely by the teachers and this helped the students to overcome the weaknesses through self-development process under the guidance of their teachers.

'I feel happy particularly as the Principal of the college,' Abul Ashraf Noor said while expressing his feeling for the results.



Sultana wants to be Barrister

By Staff Correspondent

Shahana Sultana wants to be a barrister. She secured second position in the combined merit list of the Social Science Group in the SSC examination under Rajshahi Board this year.

Sultana, a student of the Thakurgaon Government Girls' School, obtained 872 marks.

She is the daughter of late Advocate Abdus Sultan. Singing songs is her hobby.

First bio-gas plant from human excreta

FARIDPUR, Aug 9: Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf said here Friday that introduction of bio-gas technology in the country was of great importance in view of rapid population growth and deforestation, reports BSS.

He was inaugurating the country's first bio-gas plant from human excreta at the local Muslim Mission Orphanage Friday evening.

The plant has been set up with the logistic and financial support of the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) and the Employment and Technology Development Agency (ETDA) with the technological know-how of Bangladesh Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR).

The plant set up at a cost of only Taka 16,000 will produce gas for cooking purpose and generate electricity for the consumption of the orphanage.

Presided over by M N Zaman, President of the orphanage the function was also addressed, among others, by chairman of BCSIR Dr Mohammad Wajuzzaman, Project Director of LGED Taher Khan, Deputy Commissioner of Faridpur, K M Nurul Huda, President of ETDA Munir Hossain, General Secretary of the orphanage Prof. M A Samad and President of local press club Enamul Azim.

The minister said use of bio gas for cooking purpose would save money and help maintain ecological balance.

Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf underscored the need for developing low cost and appropriate technology in view of the resource constraints.

Another UNB report adds: Eight youths of Bhanga thana have been awarded rigorous imprisonment ranging from nine years to five years for abducting a minor girl.

The court awarded accused Biplob to suffer nine years RI with a fine of Taka 300 or in default, one and a half years RI more; Karim, Rahim, Shamin and Afazuddin seven years RI with a fine of Taka 2000 each or in default, one year RI more and Shawkat, Israfil and Abul Kalam five years RI with a fine of Taka 1000 each or in default, one year RI more.

The case, in brief, was that the accused Biplob abducted a minor girl Ujjala (14) from her house at village Muchcha in Louhajang thana in Munshiganj district and brought her to Azimnagar in Bhanga thana of Faridpur district on September 29, 1992.

Following a tip-off, police recovered the girl.

A case was filed and police after investigation submitted charge sheet against 11 people including the UP chairman Shahjahan and the Marriage Registrar.

After examining the witnesses and records, the District and Sessions Judge Ibrahim Ali awarded the punishment on July 22 under Anti-terrorism Act and acquitted three others.

1.61 lakh immunized under EPI in Barisal

BARISAL, Aug 9: A total of 1,61,084 children and mothers have so far been immunized in ten thanas of Barisal district under Expanded Programme of Immunization (EPI) in six months till June 30 last, reports BSS.

According to an official source, the EPI covers protection against diphtheria, tuberculosis, whooping cough, polio, measles and tetanus.

Out of the total, 99,510 children were given DPT injections and polio drops, 32,149 children BCG injections and 12,425 children received measles vaccinations. Besides, 17,010 mothers were also given tetanus toxoid (TT) injections under the programme during the period, the source added.

The source said, the programme would continue to cover all the children and mothers of this district.

Our Barisal Staff Correspondent writes: Drinking of supply water in Barisal is dangerous — as a huge quantity of mosses and other nasty germs with mud are said to be flowing with supply water regularly.

The worst affected people are of Bazar Road, Hatkhola, Amanatganj, Natun Bazar, Bogura Road, Alekanda and Sagardi. The medical college has its own water supply network but the supply water here is worse than any other place in the town area.

Total consumption of drinking water in the poura area is about 52 lakh gallons per day but supply is said to be not more than 40 lakh gallons per day. Thousands of people particularly of lower class and below middle class have to depend on other unhygienic sources of water as from ponds and shallow tubewells where waterborne germs are more or less found in plenty. Usually, many of them get contaminated water which help in fast spreading of diseases.

According to experts, Barisal is still one 'diarrhoea zone' and the ratio of 'coliform' — a waterborne bacteria, is much higher in supply water in this poura area than in other districts of Barisal division. There are 16 water supply centres in Barisal including eight overhead water tanks.



MYMENSINGH: Kotwali police recently arrested four dacoits and one fake police officer from the district. — Star photo