

District roundup

JAMALPUR

PDB realises Tk 1.4 cr outstanding bills

Sept 6: The Bangladesh Power Development Board (PDB) Jamalpur, realised a sum of Taka one crore and forty lakh outstanding bills from the consumers of electricity during this year, reports BSS.

According to an official source Taka forty-eight lakh was realised from Jamalpur, five lakh and fifty thousand from Nandina, Taka fourteen lakh from Sarishabari, Taka twenty eight lakh from Sherpur, Taka seven lakh from Nalitabari, Taka eight lakh from Dewanganj, Taka six lakh and fifty thousand from Islampur, Taka eight lakh from Melandah, Taka four lakh fifty thousand from Nakla, Taka two lakh and fifty thousand from Sreebardi, Taka three lakh and fifty thousand from Jhenaidag and Taka four lakh and fifty thousand from Bakshiganj.

B'ARIA

Huge quantity of Indian goods seized

Sept 6: Bangladesh Rifles arrested five smugglers and seized huge quantity of Indian goods from an engine boat at Aullapara beel in sadar thana last week, reports UNB.

Acting on a tip, BDR raided the beel and seized 200 kg dry chilli, 190 kg sugar, 61 kg pulse and 150 kg catechu worth about Taka 91,000.

Kasba police also seized smuggled Indian goods worth about Taka 28,000 from Chandidwar village and arrested a man in this connection. Meanwhile, sadar thana police seized 210 dozens of steel bracelets worth about Taka 11,000 from Sultanpur.

Three separate cases were filed with the police.

CHANDPUR

Heart disease treatment camp opens

Sept 6: A two-day Heart Disease Treatment Camp-93, organised by Chandpur Press Club begin here Thursday, says UNB.

Persons having heart diseases will be offered free treatment and advice at the camp, first of its kind in Chandpur.

As part of the programme, a seminar was organised to create awareness about the disease.

MAGURA

PHED resinks 3443 tubewells

Sept 6: Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) completed the resinking work of 3,443 choked up tubewells in 10 districts of Khulna division during last fiscal year, reports UNB.

Official sources said of the total, 278 tubewells were reinstalled in Magura district, 467 in Jhenidah, 471 in Jessore, 249 in Narail, 526 in Khulna, 482 in Bagerhat, 506 in Satkhira, 182 in Kustia, 140 in Chuadanga and 142 in Meherpur district.

The reinstallation programme was financed by the UNICEF.

With the completion of the programme about 70,000 families will get directly supply of pure water.

BARISAL

4,220 bundles of CI sheets for destitutes

Sept 6: Government has sanctioned 4,220 bundles of CI sheets for the construction of dwelling houses of the destitute people in the district during the current fiscal year, says BSS.

According to an official source, Japanese government donated these CI sheets for destitute people of this district who lost their dwelling houses in the devastating cyclone of April 29, 1991.

Of the total, 513 bundles of CI sheets have been sanctioned for Barisal sadar thana, 667 bundles for Bakerganj, 1,171 bundles for Mehendiganj, 582 bundles for Hizia, 387 bundles for Muladi, 228 bundles for Banaripara, 148 bundles for Wazirpur, 31 bundles for Agailkhara, 109 bundles for Gournadi, 228 bundles for Banaganj thanas and 109 bundles for Barisal paurashava areas the source added. These CI sheets will be distributed according to the enrollment of the destitute people of the district made by the local MPs, the source added.

GAIBANDHA

Continuous rainfall worsens flood situation

Sept 6: Flood situation in the district worsened with the continuous rainfall during the last few days, reports BSS.

Vast areas of Gaibandha sadar, Fulchari, Sundarganj, Sadullahpur, Palashbari and Saghata thanas were affected by the flood, indeed, for the fifth time during the current season.

People of these areas have been faced with untold sufferings. Standing crops and aman seedlings on a vast tract of land have been damaged.

FARIDPUR

Storm damages 80 thatched houses

Sept 6: About Eight thatched houses were razed to the ground and several age-old trees were uprooted when a storm lashed a part of village Dhopadanga under Boalmari thana Friday morning, reports BSS.

According to additional deputy commissioner of Faridpur who visited the affected area, in the evening the storm lasted for a few minutes causing damages to kutcha houses.

However, none received injury, he said.

The chairman of the union parishad is stated to have been instructed to prepare a report on the loss of property.

RAJBARI

PHED to sink 283 tubewells, resink 300

Sept 6: Public Health and Engineering Department (PHED) has undertaken a programme to sink 283 tubewells and resink 300 others in four thanas of the district in the current fiscal year, says UNB.

The tubewells will be installed with the financial assistance from UNICEF. Of the total tubewells 61 are shallow and the rest 222 are Tara tubewells.

While talking to UNB the officials of the department said about 50,000 people in rural areas of the district will get the facilities of pure water after the installation of the tubewells.

Another report adds: Roads and Highways Department has taken up a programme to construct four kilometre long Rajbari-Pangsha road under Rajbari-Kushtia highway at a cost of Taka 54 lakh.

Besides, works of 180 feet long bridge on the same road are going on in full swing costing Taka 57 lakh which is expected to be completed by the end of next December, the officials added.

SHERPUR

Comprehensive family planning programme

Sept 6: District Family Planning unit has taken up a comprehensive plan to bring about 60,530 people in five thanas under its programme in the current fiscal year, reports UNB.

According to official sources, the programme will be implemented in cooperation with various local hospitals and non government organisations.

Of the total, 2,570 people will be brought under sterilisation, 2780 women under IUD and 9,070 under injection programme.

Besides, oral pills and condoms will be supplied to 46,000 young men and women in the district.

A total of 36,280 doses of injections, 5,50,650 cycles of oral pills and 14,10,000 pieces of condoms will be distributed under the programme.

NAOGAON

SSC students greeted for outstanding results

Sept 6: Naogaon district Chhatra Union branch accorded a reception to the SSC passed students of the district who secured position in the merit list at the local government Krishna Dhan High School auditorium, reports UNB.

Former Pourashava Chairman Md Abdur Rakib attended the function held recently as chief guest while Advocate Khairul Anam Helal and Kazi Akhteruzzaman attended as special guests. It was presided over by student leader Mohsin Reza.



MYMENSINGH: Prof M Abdul Haque, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture and Convenor of the Council of Deans, BAU speaking as chief guest at the inaugural function of the literary cultural festival '93 held at the Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin auditorium on August 2.

Rain paralyses normal life

KUSHTIA, Sept 6: Heavy downpour during the last three days inundated most parts of the town paralysing the normal life, reports UNB.

Most of the low lying areas in the town and its adjoining areas went under water following incessant rain, local people said.

Local authorities recorded 157 millimeters of rainfall during the last three days beginning from August 31.

Kushtia General Hospital, Shilpakala Academy, Court-para, Majampur and many other roads in the town went under knee deep water causing great inconveniences to pedestrians and vehicular movements.

Rain waters still remained stagnant in various parts of the town polluting the environment. Faulty drainage system aggravated the situation further.

Most of the roads in municipal areas were damaged by the incessant rainfall and bus services in many routes were suspended.

Water levels of the Gori and Ganges have swelled up due to heavy rainfall but are still flowing below the danger mark.

Water level of GK project main canal also recorded rise causing breaches of the banks in some places in Kumarkhali thana areas and caused flood damaging

standing crops. The authorities, however, closed the gates of the canal and took prompt measures for repair of the breaches.

Betel leaf farming faces setback

Cultivation of betel leaf has been facing setback in the district due to price hike of raw materials.

Dearth of inputs, high carrying cost, paucity of loan and absence of marketing facilities are the main reasons behind the setback of betel leaf cultivation in the area.

Prices of inputs like bamboo, straw, oilcake and coir thread have gone up causing untold suffering to the growers.

About 40 to 50 maunds of oil cake are required for cultivation of betel leaf on one bigha of land. Shades used for plantation are required to be changed frequently but high cost of bamboo which sells at Taka 100 each is impossible for peasants to erect shades.

Absence of proper marketing facilities for the products the growers fail to attract both internal and foreign markets.

T. aman farming plan taken up

District Agricultural Extension Department has taken up an ambitious scheme to cultivate High Yielding Variety

of transplanted aman on 70,000 acres of land in the district with the aim of producing 80,000 metric tons of paddy.

Official sources said another 11,000 acres of land have been brought under local variety as cultivation of High Yielding Variety was not possible in these lands.

In order to implement the scheme all out efforts were being made to provide maximum facilities to the farmers. Better quality seeds have been made available to the farmers.

Provisions have also been made to extend irrigation facilities through 176 deep tubewells, 354 shallow tubewells and 181 power pumps. GK project authority has undertaken a plan to provide irrigation within the project area.

The commercial banks have also been giving agricultural loans to make the scheme a success.

BSS adds: Police recovered two pigeons from Partikabari under Kushtia sadar thana recently and arrested two persons in this connection.

Earlier, police interrogated two persons from Daulatpur thana of the district and after their confession recovered the arms.

A case has been registered against them.

BAUCSU cultural festival held

From Our Correspondent

MYMENSINGH, Sept 6: The inauguration of a three day-long literary and cultural festival under the auspices of BAUCSU (1990-91) was held at the Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin auditorium of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) recently.

Presided over by the Students Affairs Advisor Prof M R H Bhuiya, the inaugural function was attended by Prof M Abdul Haque, Dean of the faculty of agriculture and convenor of the council of deans of BAU as the chief guest and Prof M Mahfuzur Rahman, Treasurer of BAUCSU and Shahadat Hossain Chanchal, G S of BAUCSU as the special guests.

In his inaugural address the chief guest stated, literature and culture bear the inner spirit of nation's national life.

Terming agricultural education as a technical one, the chief guest further said that it had a deep linkage with the culture and traditions of our country. He urged upon the students to be involved with the creative literary and cultural activities.

MP faces foodgrain misappropriation charge

From Our Correspondent

JAMALPUR, Sept 6: District Anti-corruption Bureau has filed a case against local Awami League MP Mirza Azam and three others at Jamalpur Sadar thana court for misappropriation of Taka 10 crore government foodgrain.

Mirza Azam is a foodgrain carrying contractor. He withdrew huge quantity of foodgrain from Jamalpur LSD Food Godown at different times during Ershad's regime. But foodgrain worth Taka 10 crore was not delivered to other LSD godowns in the district.

In this connection, District Anti-corruption Bureau investigated the case and filed charge-sheet against Mirza Azam MP and other three persons.

A case was filed under Section 5 (2), No-2 of Anti-corruption Act in this connection.

When contacted, District Anti-corruption Bureau, Jamalpur informed that a thorough investigation is going on.

A cross section of people demanded exemplary punishment to the persons for misappropriation of foodgrain.

Another case has been filed

at local railway thana under Anti-terrorism Act against 28 persons including Awami League MP Mirza Azam here recently.

A group of unruly people led by Awami League MP Mirza Azam who attack on the policemen and damaged three government jeeps and one railway engine at Jamalpur rail station here August 15 during the hartal hours.

At least seven policemen were seriously injured by brick-battling.

All the injured policemen were admitted to Jamalpur general hospital.

In this connection, a Sadar thana police Md Ilias Ali Miah filed a case while district Awami League General Secretary Razaul Karim Hira submitted a case against policemen at local court for lathicharge during the hartal hours at the Jamalpur railway station areas.

Meanwhile, district unit of Jatiyatabadi Juba Dal, and Chhatra Dal brought out a procession which paraded the town roads against the Awami League MP Mirza Azam and its workers for terrorism.

Floods affect fishing projects in Moulvibazar

From Our Correspondent

MOULVI BAZAR, Sept 6: The recent devastating flood has badly affected the fishing projects in the Moulvibazar district causing huge financial losses to the fish cultivators.

It is reported that law-lying areas of six thanas of the district particularly haor areas went under five to six feet water due to recent flash flood. As a result, fish-fry from different ponds went out with the flood water.

It is roughly estimated that fish cultivators have suffered a loss of Taka 75 lakh due to over flow of ponds and tanks.

Owners of ponds and tanks who had taken loans from individual money lenders or banks for pisciculture are now in extreme hardship trying to overcome the problem.

Those who were affected are appealing for fresh loans to restart pisciculture.

Largest hatchery

The largest hatchery in greater Sylhet district was inaugurated at village Kurshi under Nabiganj thana of Habiganj district recently.

The hatchery was constructed with an expenditure of Taka 14 crore under financial assistance of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). Director of ADB Pi Cohal Pong formally inaugurated it recently at a simple ceremony.

A source of the hatchery said, the hatchery would be able to fulfill the market demands of fish fry within three years. Later, it will export fish fry.

Installation of FAX machines

The government has decided to install FAX machines in some district head post-offices soon to provide FAX services to the general public.

According to a highly placed source of Telephone and Telegraph department, at the initial stage FAX machines will be installed shortly at the Head Post Office (HPO) at Moulvibazar and four others at greater district headquarters.

A total of Taka 85 lakh will be spent for installation of FAX machines in these five district headquarters.

Construction of 84 pry schools completed

RAJSHAHI, Sept 6: Facilities Department of the Ministry of Education completed construction work of eighty-four government primary schools and six madrasahs in greater Rajshahi, Pabna and Bogra districts at a cost of Taka eighteen crore and fifty lakh during the last fiscal year, reports BSS.

The department had also undertaken the construction work of science buildings of five private colleges in greater Rajshahi district at a cost of Taka ninety lakh during the period.

An official source said that the department will spend Taka eight crore and fifty lakh for the overall development of twenty three government colleges and twenty-five government high schools during the current fiscal year.

Meanwhile, work of six school buildings under Rajshahi City Corporation has been progressing fast.

The construction of these schools under general educa-

tion project will be completed before December next at a cost of Taka one crore and twenty-five lakh.

The source said that Taka thirteen crore would be spent by the government for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of government and private primary schools at thana level during the current fiscal year. Over six hundred such schools will come under the project in greater Rajshahi and Pabna districts.

Besides, the department have undertaken the development work of forty-three non-government high schools at thana level at a cost of Taka three crore.

Meanwhile, work on twenty schools have been completed and the rest will be completed before November next.

The source said that a modern science building will be constructed for Rajshahi Government College at a cost of Taka sixty lakh and a ladies hostel at a cost of Taka fifty lakh during the current fiscal year.

179 degree exam scripts recovered from shop

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, Sept 6: Railway Police at Bonarpara recovered 179 degree examination scripts of this year held on August 17 at Rangpur Carmichael College centre from a grocery shop of Bharatkali recently.

According to police, 78 scripts of Applied Chemistry and 101 scripts of Accountancy (subsidiary) were booked from Rangpur station to Jatiya Bishavdalay Dhaka under railway parcel.

The parcel was however despatched by 8-down mail train on August 18. At Teestamuk ghat, a clerk received documents of parcels from the guard on duty but he did not take delivery of two packets of examination scripts.

Next morning, one Anwarul Islam (13), a student of class VII while crossing the empty van found two packets of goods lying in the luggage van. Anwarul took the packets to his home where he opened the packets and found scripts. He made a rough khata for use and the remaining khata were sold to a nearby grocery shop.

On August 20, Hossain Ali, the shop owner realised that those might be the scripts of examination. Later he informed the matter to the elites of the area who identified the scripts of degree examination.

On being informed, ASI of local Railway security force seized the scripts and sent to Bonarpara GRP thana.

According to OC, Bonarpara, most of the pages of scripts found were damaged during the seizure.

A case was filed.

Uphold ideals of independence

Jatiya Samantantrik Dal (JSD) have called upon all to uphold the ideals of independence.

"Injustice" costs her life

SATKHIRA, Sept 6: A damsel of a wretched family has committed suicide protesting "injustice" meted out to her by the village elders, reports UNB.

Feroza Begum (16), daughter of a poor carpenter, was brought to the village court on Thursday (Sept 2). She was accused of seducing boys and involving in immoral activities.

The court comprising Imam of the mosque, union parishad members and village elders found her guilty, and punished on the spot-101 lashes with broom.

The cries of the young girl drew no sympathy from the elders. Some faint voices from her clan against the judgement were drowned.

In pain and shame, disgraced and disgust, Feroza, leaning on her sister's shoulders, returned home at village Kalikapur of Kaliganj thana. That night she drank pesticide.

According to the inhabitants of Kalikapur, Feroza used to collect shrimp pawns at the river bank and sell those to shrimp cultivators to support her large family. Her father, Khaled Mistry, has nine daughters and a son.

On Friday, police brought the body of Feroza to Satkhira where it under went postmortem at sadar hospital.

Police said they were investigating the case, but none was taken into custody till Saturday noon.

Indian salt, phensidyl syrup seized

JHENIDAH, Sept 6: Bangladesh Rifles seized huge quantity of Indian salt and phensidyl syrup from a boat in the river Padma near Chilmari of Kushtia district on Sunday, reports UNB.

The BDR sources said, a patrol party of Battalion-3 seized 200 maunds of Indian salt and 1000 bottles of phensidyl syrup from the boat.



CHAPAINAWAGANJ: Md Iachin Ali, MD, Md Amiruzzaman, Zonal Manager and ATM Mostafa Kamal RM of Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank attending a conference of the managers of the bank held here recently.