

National

District roundup

KHULNA

Test relief co-ordination committee meet held

Sept 12: The first meeting of Khulna district test relief co-ordination committee during the current financial year was held on Thursday at the conference room of the Deputy Commissioner. Whip of Jatiya Sangsad, Ashraf Hossain was in the chair, reports BSS.

The meeting was attended among others by local Members of Parliament including Syeda Nargis Ali, Harun Rashid and Mostafa Rashid Suja.

CHANDPUR

Free treatment given at heart disease camp

Sept 12: A two-day long heart disease camp was held at Chandpur Press Club premises recently under the auspices of the Chandpur Sputnik Science Club, reports BSS.

About three hundred heart patients were given free treatment by a six-member team taken from Dhaka Heart Foundation headed by Prof Abdul Malik.

This was the first heart disease camp held at Chandpur. On this occasion, a seminar was held at the Chandpur Rotary Club Bhavan.

The seminar was presided over by Dr Nurul Rahman. Eminent persons including Prof Abdul Malik, Dr Abdullah Shafiq Majumder, Associate Professor, Dhaka Medical College, Dr M A Gafur, Principal A W M Toha Mia, Quamruzzaman Chowdhury, Prof Mohammad Hossain Khan, Advocate Abdul Fazal, Mojaidul Islam took part in the discussion.

BARISAL

Tk 50,000 sanctioned for mass education

Sept 12: Government has sanctioned Tk 50,000 for mass education in Barisal pauroshava areas during the currency fiscal year, reports BSS.

According to an official source, President Abdur Rahman Biswas donated Tk 50,000 from his personal fund for mass education programmes in pauroshava areas of the district. In all there are 29 education centres in this district, an education office source said.

CNAWABGANJ

Project on aman cultivation

Sept 12: About 12 lakh acres of the land have been brought under aman cultivation in Barendra Project area of Chapainawabganj, Rajshahi and Naogaon districts in the current season, says BSS.

According to Barendra Multipurpose Development Authority sources, extensive measures have been taken up to provide irrigation facilities for the Barendra area to make the programme a success.

Over 4100 deep tubewells and 6000 shallow tubewells have already been installed to extend irrigation facilities in the farm land, the sources said.

BARGUNA

Spread of cattle diseases

Sept 12: Cattle diseases have broken out in an alarming proportion in different parts of the district hampering cultivation, reports BSS.

At least 500 cattlehead died of the diseases and over 15000 were attacked by the diseases named 'khura' and 'golafula', unofficial sources said.

Khura cripples the cattle making them unable to walk and eat grasses due to infection in the jaw and hooves.

Local people alleged that most of the cattlehead died due to wrong treatment by unqualified doctors and field assistants at the thana livestock hospitals.

Since the outbreak of the diseases, no attempt for vaccination of the cattle including buffalo was initiated by the Livestock Department, they also alleged.

The field staff of Livestock Department said due to the reluctance of the people they cannot take up any programme of vaccination. On the other hand, farmers alleged that field assistants are inclined to vaccinate the cattle or poultry birds without payment.

MBAZAR

Catching of fish fry rampant

Sept 12: Catching of fish fry is going on unabated in all the six thanas of the district affecting the fish production severely, reports BSS.

Local people alleged that current nets used for the purpose, are being sold openly in town and thana markets at a cheaper rate despite government prohibition.

The government has strictly prohibited catching of fish fry below nine inches.

Local people feared that fish scarcity would intensify further if rampant catching of fish fry are not stopped immediately.

Another report adds: At least 500 patients were treated free of cost in a day-long medical camp held in Ekatuna bazar in Sadar thana of the district last week.

RAJSHAHI

Indian goods worth Tk 35 lakh seized

Sept 12: The members of 20 rifle battalion seized a huge quantity of Indian goods worth Taka about 35 lakh in the first ten days of the current month from Rajshahi, Natore and Pabna districts, reports BSS.

The seized goods included tortoiseshells, sarees, blouse pieces, bed sheets, cattle heads, sugar, salt, phenyl, syrups, heroin, insecticides, glasses and medicines.

One person was arrested and 62 cases were registered during the period.

KUSHTIA

One allegedly killed by miscreants

Sept 12: One Shahin, a student of second year HSC class of Kushtia Islamic College, was allegedly killed by miscreants on Thursday night, reports BSS.

The miscreants are reported to have attacked him as he was seated at a tea stall at Mazampur railway in front of the traffic police stand. He was rushed to the general hospital in a critical condition. He breathed his last at midnight.

A case has been registered with the Kushtia thana.

NARAIL

Pitiable shape of road hampers communication

Sept 12: The Narail-Kalna road is now in a pitiable condition hampering bus communications with the district headquarters, says BSS.

Hundreds of potholes and ditches have developed at several points of the 20 kilometre long road making bus journey hazardous. Movement of other vehicles including truck has become risky.

The road was constructed in the sixties and since then no steps were taken to repair and renovate the road. If proper repair works are not started immediately the road may become totally unfit for vehicular movement.

SIRAJGANJ

5 fishermen missing

Sept 12: Five fishermen were missing while catching hilsa fish in the river Jamuna early Saturday, reports BSS.

The missing fishermen were identified as Surendranath Halder (42), Romesh Chandra Halder (51), Govinda Halder (29), Haripada Halder (32) and Ranjeet Chandra (14).

TNO office sources said that a country boat carrying the fishermen reportedly sank into the river near Char Shoholajana when caught in strong current, wind and drizzle at about 5 am.

MAGURA

One commits suicide

Sept 12: One young girl allegedly committed suicide at Barakochi village of Sadar thana in the district by taking poison, police said recently, reports BSS.

The dead was identified as Jesmin Ara Begum (16), daughter of Mohammad Tota Mollah of the village. Family sources said she took poison following a family quarrel on August 23.

Jesmin was rushed to the Sadar hospital in critical condition where she succumbed after a few hours. The body was sent to morgue for autopsy.

A case has been filed with the police.



NATURE: The jute growers are seen here separating jute fibre from the main stem or jute sticks. Prices of raw jute in the district have declined. On the other hand, jute sticks have greater demand in the local markets fetching higher prices since last few weeks. — Star photo

Education key to progress

their individual life and in national life in general.

The Law Minister urged the opposition parties to shun the path of criticism for criticism and contribute their worth by constructive and positive criticism of different government programmes for greater national interest.

He said hartals and blockades could bring nothing but untold suffering for the common people and irreparable loss to national prosperity, says an official handout.

Another report from Gazipur says: State Minister in charge of the Ministry of Science and Technology Prof M A Mannan said Wednesday without mass education national development will remain a mere imagination.

The minister was addressing as chief guest at a gathering in Gazipur Rajbari Maidan in observance of International Literacy Day.

He said for raising the rate of literacy upto expectation, compulsory primary and mass education programmes had been initiated by the government adding that the overall progress and development could not be achieved without peace and stability in the society.

He urged the educated and affluent section of the society to come forward for making the common people, specially the rural masses, aware about the significance of education in

problems of our nation. The nation can not combat other odds unless these two are addressed properly and timely, he added. He said our concerted efforts are of paramount importance to eliminate illiteracy in order to pave the way for alleviation of poverty.

After the meeting a colourful procession comprising students, teachers and officials paraded the main roads of the town. Later the processionists dividing in six separate groups went to the nearby villages for imparting literacy to rural people, says an official handout.

UNB adds from Joypurhat:

International Literacy Day was observed here in a befitting manner of Wednesday.

Different socio-cultural organisations chalked out elaborate programmes to observe the day.

A colourful procession was brought out in the district town in observance of the day which started from local stadium and ended at town hall after parading the main thoroughfares.

The processionists carried

banners, festoons, placards and chanting slogans to attract the people towards spreading of education, says an official handout.

A discussion meeting highlighting the significance of the day was held at the town hall with Additional Deputy Commissioner (General) in the chair.

Notes From Sirajganj

SIRAJGANJ, Sept 12: Diarrhoea and blood dysentery claimed four more lives during last 24 hours when the overall flood situation in the district further improved, reports UNB.

The dead were identified as Abdul Wahab (7) of village Gusruria in Chowhali thana, Sulekha (6) of village Batyentiyor in Shahjadpur thana, Abdur Aziz (15) of Kutbandhi Kataatala village and Rohinuressa (45) of village Tenglata in Kazipur thana.

Official sources, however, confirmed death of one and 500 others attacked by the water-borne diseases during the period in Kazipur, Belkuchi, Chowhali, Shahjadpur and Sadar thanas.

With the latest deaths, the toll rose to eight in the areas affected by erosion and flood in last five days. Unofficial count however estimated the toll to be 14.

Meanwhile, 237 families in 29 villages of the affected thanas were rendered homeless by erosion of the river Jamuna during the last few days.

The erosion victims have taken shelter at different flood embankments.

7 missing in boat capsized

Seven people, including a woman, were reported missing after a mechanised ferry boat capsized midstream Jamuna near Shimla in Sadar thana on Wednesday.

Witnesses said the boat with 42 passengers on board started for Sirajganj from Mesra ghat in Sadar thana at about 7 pm. It was overturned by heavy waves.

Other passengers swam ashore while rest of the seven were missing.

Police, however, did not confirm the accident.

10 injured in storm

Ten people, including a woman, were injured when a storm accompanied by heavy downpour lashed two thanas of the district early Tuesday.

Witnesses said the storm, with a velocity of 45 km per hour, also damaged 150 dwelling houses and uprooted trees in Kazipur and Sadar thana at about 2 am.

15 hurt in rival groups clash

At least 15 people including three women were injured in a clash between rival groups of villagers in Rayganj thana of the district Tuesday.

Witnesses said the clash erupted following an altercation between the two groups led by Manjurul Islam and Zainul Bepari over stealing a goat.

Another 1000 homeless due to Jamuna erosion

JAMALPUR, Sept 12: Continuous erosion of the river Jamuna rendered 1,000 people homeless in Dewanganj thana during the last three days, reports UNB.

The worst affected villages are Char Madar and Pullakandi in Bahadurabad union of the thana where erosion has taken a serious turn.

The homeless people brought out a procession and gheraoed the office of the TNO on September 5 and submitted a memorandum demanding their immediate rehabilitation and measures to check erosion.

The hatchery which are in great demand abroad, specially in Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

Further information reveals that through research the hatchery succeeded to extend the breeding period of carp from three to nine months which can play an important role in fisheries development in the country. They said, about 90 kg of this type of fish has been produced here.

National

Tk 800cr for better phone services

JESSORE, Sept 12: The Ministry of Telecommunications has undertaken Taka 800 crore development schemes in the country for the development and improvement of telephone services.

These schemes will be completed by the year 1995 and total cost would be met from the nation's own source without external assistance.

This was disclosed by Tarique Islam, Minister for Post and Telecommunications while talking to BSS at Jessoro Circuit House Thursday.

The minister said that there would be sixty thousand digital telephone connections in Dhaka, and thirty thousand digital telephone connections in Chittagong during 1993-94 fiscal year in the first phase.

In the second phase, another one lakh and thirty thousand digital telephones would be installed in Dhaka, Chittagong, Sylhet, Khulna and Jessoro airport. He said card-phones at Benapole yielded Taka 8000 per month on an average.

eighteen thousand and five hundred digital telephones would be installed in Dhaka, the minister added.

The minister said that 200 card-phones booths had been installed in the country and another 200 booths would be available by 1993-94. He said that 266 thanas in the country had been brought under OTD (Operator Trunk Dialling) service and the rest will be covered by 1993-94.

The minister said that a plan was currently under study for changing over to digital system replacing the existing analogue system in all the greater district headquarters.

Regarding local demand, the minister said that card-phones had been installed in Jhenidah, Sarsa, Kaliganj, Benapole and Mongla. Such booths will soon be set up at Jessoro sadar hospital and Jessoro airport. He said card-phones at Benapole yielded Taka 8000 per month on an average.

Record fish production

From Our Correspondent

MYMENSINGH, Sept 12: The Fish Research Institute (FRI) at Mymensingh has set up a record in producing maximum output of carp, a large freshwater fish through improved biological method this year.

When contacted, the director of the institute, Dr M A Mazid disclosed that the institute sold fish to roughly 1600 fish farmers in the country. He further said that better quality of carp and catfish had been produced.

Witnesses said the storm, with a velocity of 45 km per hour, also damaged 150 dwelling houses and uprooted trees in Kazipur and Sadar thanas.

Other passengers swam ashore while rest of the seven were missing.

Police, however, did not confirm the accident.

10 injured in storm

Ten people, including a woman, were injured when a storm accompanied by heavy downpour lashed two thanas of the district early Tuesday.

Witnesses said the storm, with a velocity of 45 km per hour, also damaged 150 dwelling houses and uprooted trees in Kazipur and Sadar thanas.

Other passengers swam ashore while rest of the seven were missing.

Police, however, did not confirm the accident.

15 hurt in rival groups clash

At least 15 people including three women were injured in a clash between rival groups of villagers in Rayganj thana of the district Tuesday.

Witnesses said the clash erupted