

## District roundup

### TANGAIL

#### Doctors urged to serve people

Sept 20: The installation ceremony of the Tangail branch of the Doctors Association of Bangladesh (DAB) was held here on Friday, reports BSS.

Dr Abdul Rari, Civil Surgeon Tangail presided over the function. Deputy Minister, Health and Family Planning, Sirajul Haque attended the function as chief guest.

In his speech the deputy minister asked the doctors to hold high the professional dignity of the physicians. "Your job is to serve the people which is more noble than many of the noblest job in other sectors."

The president and secretary of the association also addressed the function.

### JAMALPUR

#### Farmers to get Tk 14 cr loan

Sept 20: The nationalised banks including Bangladesh Krishi Bank sanctioned Taka 14 crore as agri-loan for the small and marginal farmers of greater Jamalpur district in the current financial year, reports UNB.

According to official sources, the loan is being disbursed at the first phase among the farmers of 12 thanas of Sherpur and Jamalpur districts.

The loan will be disbursed among the 25,000 farmers of the districts to boost crop, livestock and fisheries output.

The sources said the loan will be disbursed through 67 branches of BKB, Sonali Bank, Janata Bank and Agrani Bank till June next year.

### PATUAKHALI

#### Int'l Literacy Day observed

Sept 20: International Literacy Day was observed all over the district in a befitting manner, reports BSS.

A colourful procession was brought out in the morning at this town. The procession was joined by the students of schools and colleges, local political leaders and workers and elite of the town. A discussion meeting was also held in this connection at the local pourashava auditorium.

Minister for Religious Affairs, Keramat Ali attended the meeting as chief guest. It was presided over by the Deputy Commissioner of Patuakhali Eyeha Molla. It was addressed among others by Sultan Ahmed, Chairman of the Pourashava, Professor Abdul Awal Biswas, Prof Azizur Rahman, Nargis Ara Haque and Delwar Hossain Superintendent of Police.

### MAULVIBAZAR

#### Death condoled

From Our Correspondent  
Sept 20: A meeting to condole the death of a journalist, social worker Nikunja Bihari Goswami was held at local Shilpa Kala Academy premises recently.

The condolence meeting was presided over by Mustak Ahmed Moin and it was addressed among others by Prof Karunamoy Roy, Prof Habibur Rahman Abu, Prof Rajat Kanti Goswami, Syed Munir Danial and Asit Kumar Das.

The speakers of the meeting recalled the contribution of the late news man.

Late Goswami was born in Kalapur village under Moulvibazar district in 1913.

### MYMENSINGH

#### Help implement socio-economic programmes

Sept 20: State Minister for Establishment Barrister Md Aminul Haque on Saturday called upon the nationalist forces to motivate the rural people and social organisations in implementing the socio-economic development programmes of the government, reports BSS.

He was addressing a rally of the leaders and workers of Jatiyatabadi Svecchasebak Dal here.

The state minister said, some vested groups were making propaganda about the ongoing development activities. He said, they did not want a happy and prosperous Bangladesh and so they wanted to misguide the people.

The state minister urged the workers to put in their best efforts to create a properly educated society so that they might not be deprived by the vested quarters. Corruption and terrorism should also be rooted out through united endeavours, he asserted.

Among others, local MP Alhaj Aman Ullah Chowdhury spoke on the occasion.

### MADARIPUR

#### Two commit suicide

Sept 20: Two people allegedly committed suicide in Rajoir thana of the district during the last week, family sources said, reports UNB.

The dead were identified as Mayarani (40) wife of Gonesh Chowdhury of Amgram union in the thana and Swapan Kumar Baroi (18) son of Horendra Nath Baroi of Kadambari union of the same thana.

Mayarani allegedly committed suicide as a sequel to family feud while Swapan Kumar took his life by taking poison following his failure in love.

Two cases had been filed with the police.

### RAJBARI

#### JCD wins govt college students union election

Sept 20: Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal swept the election of Rajbari Government College Students Union held on Saturday in a peacefully atmosphere, according to a press release, reports BSS.

The JCD won 19 posts including the Vice President and Assistant General Secretary out of a total of 25 posts.

A K M Sirajul Alam Chowdhury was elected V P and Shah Md Alamgir Hossain AGS. Nazrul Islam Stimul of Chhatra Matriti was elected General Secretary.

State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahannara Begum congratulated the newly elected office-bearers of the Rajbari Government College Students Union.

She also expressed her gratefulness to the students of the college for electing JCD candidates.

### RAJSHAHI

#### People urged to make edn plans a success

Sept 20: Rajshahi City Mayor Mizanur Rahman Minu has called upon the voluntary organisations to put in their efforts side by side government's initiatives to eradicate the curse of illiteracy from the country, reports BSS.

Addressing the seventh founding anniversary of Mukhtangam Illiteracy Eradication Centre here on Saturday, the Mayor said, the prosperity of the country depended upon increasing the literacy rate of the masses.

The Mayor lauded the role of the institution in spreading education and sought cooperation of the affluent sections for building such institutions.

Explaining different programmes under taken by the government to ensure education for all by the year 2000, the Mayor called upon the people to make the programmes a success.

### CHUADANGA

#### Aman farming hampered for want of rain

From Our Correspondent  
Sept 20: Transplanted aman paddy cultivation during the current season is severely hampering in all the four thanas of Chuadanga district for want sufficient rainfall.

The rainfall in the district is inadequate. As a result the transplanted aman paddy, cultivators of the district have been facing problems.

The shallow tubewell owners of the district have with drawn their shallow tubewell engines from the fields with a hope of rainfall like other years.

It may be noted here that every year it rains sufficiently with the advent of Ashar month.

During the current transplanted aman paddy cultivation season about 80,000 acres of land have been brought under cultivation in the district.

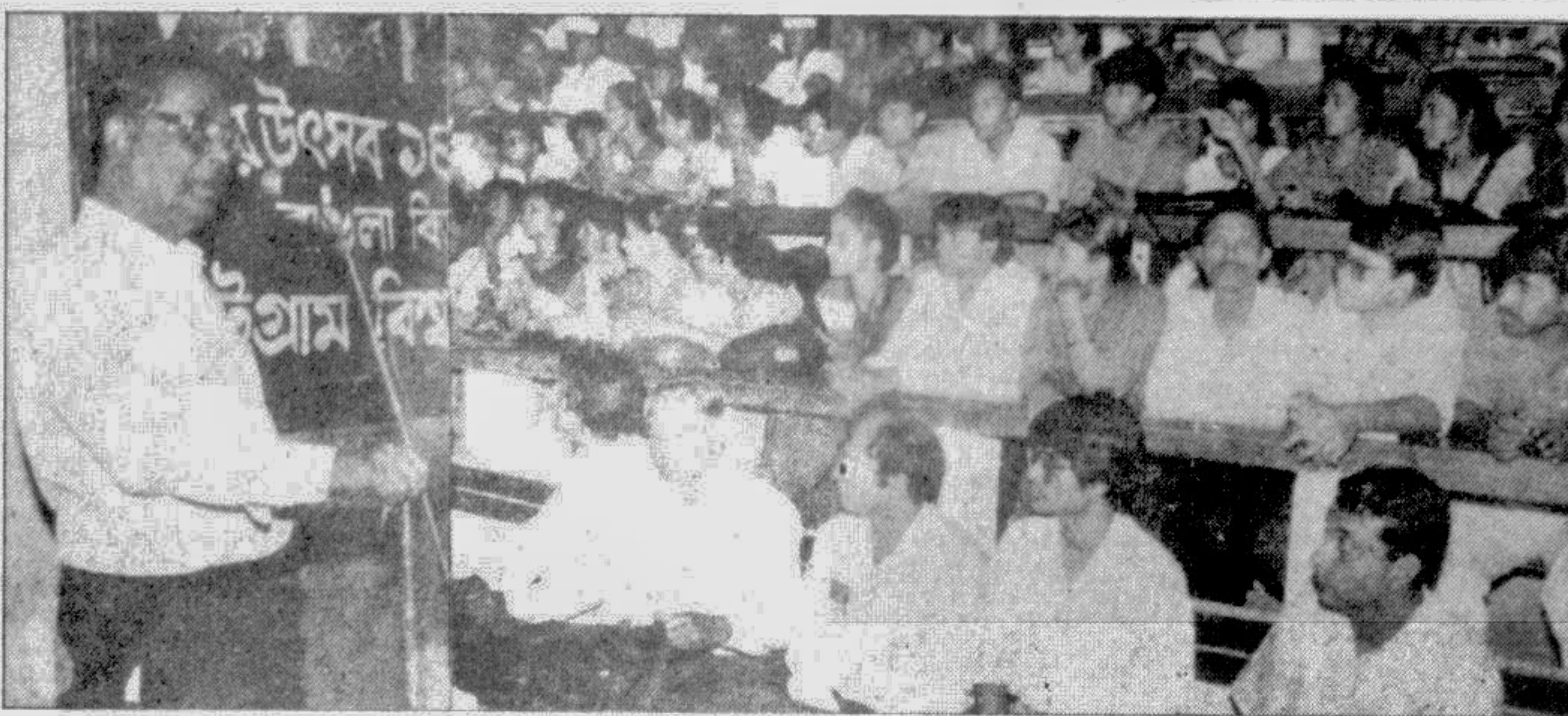
### SHERPUR

#### One allegedly killed by miscreants

Sept 20: One Habibur Rahman (42) of village Bagraquesha under Sherpur Pourashava was allegedly killed by miscreants recently, says BSS.

The miscreants called him out of his house at night. He did not return home. Next morning his body was found floating in a pond nearby.

The body has been sent to Sherpur hospital for post mortem. A case has been registered with the Sherpur sadar thana.



Prof RI Chowdhury, VC, Chittagong University speaking at a farewell function accorded to the outgoing students of Bengali Department of the university recently. — CU photo

## One to die for acid throw

### From Our Correspondent

BRAHMANBARIA, Sept 20: One Majibur Rahman to die and Moklesh Mia to suffer life-term for throwing acid. Moklesh also pay a fine of Taka 5,000 in default to suffer one more year.

The four other accused persons were acquitted of the charge. The acquitted persons are Sufia Khatun, Abdul Karim, Hussain Mia and Rahis Mia.

The above judgement was delivered by the District and Sessions Judge, Nazmun Ara Sultana of Brahmanbaria recently.

The prosecution story in brief is that the accused persons threw acid in on Hanifa Begum (22), Mamtaz Begum (15) Daughter of Abdul Khaleque and two years old son Shahid Hussain of Hanufa Begum of village Rupsadi under Banchharampur thana of the

district when they were sleeping in their home on the night of May 24, 1992.

The faces, eyes and some portion of the body of the victims were burnt.

Accused Majibur Rahman wanted to marry Mamtaz Begum. Being failure, they threw acid on them.

A case was filed with the Banchharampur thana.

Police after investigation submitted chargesheet against six persons.

The judge after examining the records and witnesses, delivered the judgement.

Property worth about Taka 8 lakh was gutted when a devastating fire broke out at Chandina Bazar under Sadar thana of the district on September 18.

Eight shops were burnt to ashes. The shops includes

laundry, clothes shops and jute shops. The fire service vehicle from Zila Sadar reached to the spot and brought the fire under the control after two hours.

The fire originated from electric short circuit.

Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal has won in the student union election of Brahmanbaria Government College held on September 16.

Abu Shamim Md Arif, Mohd Mainul Hussain and Md Apple Mahmud Khan were elected Vice President, General Secretary and Assistant General Secretary respectively.

Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), Chhatra Moitri, Chhatra Union and Sangrami Chhatra Samaj took part in the election while Islami Chhatra Shibir boycotted the election.

## Notes From Chandpur

### From Our Correspondent

CHANDPUR, Sept 20: A one-day workshop of "fertilizer dealers" organised by MS Rahman Corporation was held at Chandpur Rotary bhavan recently. The programme was organised in co-operation with Ministry of Agriculture, International Fertilizer Development Corporation (IFDC) and USAID.

About 3,000 fertilizer dealers participated in the workshop. A discussion meeting was held at Rotary bhavan on the occasion. The meeting was addressed among others by M A Masud Bhuiyan, A H M obaidul Bari, Nizamuddin Ahmed, Dr. Thomas P Thomson, Md. Matiar Rahman, Md. Asadul Bakul, Makbul lahi.

The speakers discussed the role of fertilizer dealers' fertilizer situation after withdrawal of subsidy, quality control of fertilizer during the peace season.

Int'l Literacy Day observed

International Literacy Day was observed at Chandpur by different socio-cultural organisations.

The programme of the day included rally, seminar and cultural functions. About 5,000 school students participated the rally which started in the morning from Chandpur Press Club.

The rally was inaugurated by Rabeya Chowdhury, MP.

In the evening, a discussion meeting was held at Chandpur Press Club. The meeting was presided over by Md. Golam Kibria, DC, Chandpur. Rabeya Chowdhury MP attended the meeting as chief guest.

The meeting was addressed among others by Quamruzzaman Chowdhury, Principal Kazi Amin Ahmed, Principal Matiar Rahman, Advocate Sheikh Matiar Rahman and many others.

Crops damaged

New transplanted aman crops were damaged by heavy rain under Chandpur Irrigation Project and Matlab Dhanagoda Project. Crops were damaged on about 25,000 acres of land.

Free treatment of heart disease

Two day heart disease camp was organised by Sputnik Science Club here recently.

The camp was held at Chandpur Press Club. About 300 heart disease patients were given free treatment. Eminent heart specialists headed by Brigadier Dr. Abdul Malik attended the camp. This is the first heart disease camp organised at Chandpur.

Dr Ibrahim's death anniversary observed

The 4th death anniversary of Dr Md Ibrahim was observed at Chandpur Press Club recently.

In this connection, a meeting was held at the local press club.

## BDR men uncover fake medicine factory

### From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, Sept 20: Bangladesh Rifles personnel arrested on person and recovered medicines from a fake homeopathic laboratory recently from Kanchannagar at Jhenidah town.

Acting on a secret information, BDR personnel raided the fake homeopathic manufacturing factory, JD Chemicals and recovered some items from their possession. The BDR personnel arrested Fazlur Rahman, the owner of the factory will they were involved in manufacturing fake drugs.

It is informed that the factory was involved in producing fake drugs like belladonna, nuxvomica, Pulsatilla and other similar drugs for the last few years.

A case was filed with Jhenidah thana and the arrested person was handed over to police.

Another report says: The largest seed production farm of the country is facing closure

due to negligence of the authority and find shortage.

According to a reliable source, Dattanagar seed production farm was established with five sub-centers namely Pathila, Mathura, Geakulnager, Gharing and Kushodanga in Mohepur thana in Jhenidah district.

The farm was established mainly for seed production. But mismanagement, fund shortage and want of modern technology Dattanagar agricultural farm may be closed down any time.

This farm has 2,400 acres of cultivable land, 28 engine driven plough 40 deep tubewells and four power pumps the source said. These equipment are out-dated and almost all the equipment lost their capacity to serve any longer. The higher authority did not take any measures for repairing the equipment.

As a result, these irrigation equipment are being driven with diesel which cost much higher.

## Steps taken to make edn system people-oriented

KUSHTIA, Sept 20: Education Minister Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar said the present democratic government has undertaken pragmatic steps towards making education system people-oriented for eradicating illiteracy by the year 2000, reports BSS.

The Education Minister was addressing as the chief guest the inaugural function of a library bhavan of Kushtia Government College here. Presided over by Principal of the college Ataher Ali Dewan, the function was addressed by State Minister for Civil Aviation Abdul Mannan, Selina Shahid MP, Abdur Rouf Chowdhury, Abdul Khaleq Chantu MP, Ahsanul Haq MP and President of district BNP Shahidul Islam.

The Education Minister said the government has established national university to remove session jam and restore academic discipline in the system of higher education. He said, all

examinations will be held and results will be published as per schedule. He added that the government is striving hard to make the campus violence free and terrorism.

The Education Minister called upon the teachers and students to put in their efforts for restoring peace and the campus in the greater national interest.

State Minister for Civil Aviation Abdul Mannan in his address said, the government had given highest priority to education sector for building a happy and prosperous country. He also called upon the students to devote themselves in pursuit of knowledge for making them worthy citizens of the country in the years ahead.

Later, the Education Minister laid foundation of science building of the college and gave away prizes among the meritorious students of the college.

## Patients suffer for want of medicare facilities

### From Our Correspondent

DINAJPUR, Sept 20: The Bochaganj thana Health Complex has been facing problems affecting medicare of the suffering people.

Water crisis, paucity of medicine, power failure, lack of renovation of buildings and roads and absence of ambulance are listed as the main problems of the complex.

The Health Complex was set up in 1972. The hospital premises has turned into a cattle grazing place for want of boundary wall.

Most of the 31 beds are

without steady patients have to bring their beddings from their homes. For want of an ambulance, many patients were to die every year.

There is no separate ward for women patients and infectious diseases. The only X-ray machine went out of order in January last.

The hospital remains in darkness for long due to frequent power failure. So emergency operations cannot be carried out during that period, informed hospital sources.

## 3 to suffer life-term for double murder

### From Our Correspondent

SYLHET, Sept 20: The Additional District and Sessions Judge, third court, Sylhet while delivering his judgement in the sensational double murder case of Kanaighat thana found three accused persons guilty and sentenced them to life-term imprisonment and fined Taka 5,000 each in default to suffer imprisonment for six months more each.

The prosecution of the case in brief is that the accused persons armed with lethal

weapons attacked the house of one Shaful Haque of village Himmatmatil under Kanaighat thana on October 1, 1990.

Five persons were injured seriously in the incident. They were immediately admitted to the Sylhet MAG Osmany Medical College Hospital. Among the injured two brothers, Faruque and Masuque succumbed to their injuries there.

A case in this connection was registered with the police.

## Poor service at hospital

MADARIPUR, Sept 20: Patients of the 31-bed Kalkini hospital of the district are facing immense problems due to lack of necessary amenities, reports UNB.

According to the local people, many patients are to go back frustrated due to lack of necessary medicines. The poor patients are not in a position to buy emergency medicines from outside at high prices.

The hospital lacks regular water supply. As a result, the doctors and patients are to collect water from outside facing much inconvenience.

The residential quarters of the hospital are also in bad shape due to lack of maintenance and repair works.

Local people have urged the Health Minister and local MP to look into the matter and take necessary scheme to modernise the hospital.

## Hundreds suffering from virus fever

NARAIL, Sept 20: The virus fever that broke out in an alarming proportion in the district attacked hundreds of people in rural and urban areas during the last 15 days, reports UNB.

According to the physicians, the symptoms of virus fever are high temperature, pain and headache.

The badly affected areas are: Pahardanga, Baisona and Baralpara in Kalia thana and Lakki Pasha, Joypur and Sheorbar in Lohagara thana of the district.

There is no curative medicine for this fever, doctors said; women and children are the worst sufferers of the disease.

Another report adds: The project of ground nut cultivation

in the district is bright as well as lucrative, farmers and agri-experts said.

Farmers of the river-belt areas of Lohagara and Kalia thanas where soil is sandy have achieved encouraging yield of the crop with the cooperation of the local Agriculture Extension Department.

The yield was 60 maund per acre valued at Taka 10,000 while the cost of production was Taka 100 only. Sandy soil is suitable for cultivation of ground nut and it can be grown in both Kharif and Rabi seasons.

It takes 130 days to harvest the crop, the farmers said. Encouraged by the high yield, the farmers of these areas have decided to go for extensive cultivation of this cash crop.



SYLHET: AFM Kamal, Chairman, local pourashava speaking as chief guest at the 'Dr A Rasul Cyclone Education Stipend' and certificate giving function arranged by the central cyclone group recently. — Star photo

## Fishermen unable to carry on profession for fund crisis

### From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, Sept 20: About 65,000 fishermen in 13 thanas of Kishoreganj district are not in a position to carry on their ancestral occupation due to non-availability of fishing appliances and necessary capital.

The fish production in the district is on decline for last five years following price hike of fishing appliances including nets and boats. The situation has aggravated due to past floods that have completely shattered the economic condition of the fishermen. The flood ravaged fishermen were not properly rehabilitated to run their trade afresh. Some fishermen alleged.

A fishing boat along with a net in local market is being sold at Taka 1.5 lakh which is beyond the purchasing capacity of the fishermen. The abnormal prices of fishing net, boat and other appliances persisting in the district have crippled the professional fish-

ermen. They are also being deprived of government allocation extended to fishermen co-operative societies due to nepotism of local influential quarters.

Previous beels and haors were the main source of fish production but it is declining very fast because of massive siltation, unplanned irrigation and reckless fishing by the non-professionals considerably affecting the production in the beels and haors.

Meanwhile, a large number of fishermen has left their profession and has taken other jobs. It may be mentioned here that genuine fishermen previously used to get haors, beels and jalmahals on lease but now-a-days a section of fake fishermen in collusion with the vested quarters are taking lease of water bodies.

Despite government provision, the local fishermen are not being supplied with yarn at a fair price due to alleged cor-

ruption in the fishermen co-operative societies. On the other hand, bank loan facilities are not adequate to help boost pisciculture in the district.

Reports from Itna, Mitaman, Nikli, Austagram, Bhairab, Kuliarchar and Bajitpur thanas say that fishermen were totally frustrated due to fund constraints and lack of government patronisation. Non-professional fishermen make monopoly business in connivance with the local influential persons while the genuine fishermen are being deprived of minimum facilities.

Power failure frequent

Frequent power failure and load shedding have become a regular feature at Kishoreganj town and its adjoining areas causing much inconvenience to the town dwellers and loss to the businessmen and industrialists.

According to informed

sources, hardly a day or night passes without power disruption. Almost every night electricity supply fails for hours together plunging the town into darkness, as a result students and businessmen have been suffering much.

Erratic power supply has also affected production in the local mills and workshops. Irrigations in the IRR-Boro blocks is also affected. Town dwellers said the areas plunge into darkness almost after every sundown giving rise to antisocial activities. Many of their electric and electronic household gadgets have been rendered inoperative due to voltage fluctuation which is also a regular feature.

Inadequate street lights have also affected the town life. Owners of mills and factories alleged that with the decrease of production due to frequent power failure, they are sustaining huge economic loss. Besides, prices of several

products have shot up adversely affecting the consumers.

Local people said despite repeated appeals, Power Development Board could not take any action as yet.

Bullock shortage hits cultivation

Shortage of bullock has been prevailing throughout the district for quite some time hampering cultivation.

According to sources, 45 to 50 per cent farmers in 13 thanas of Kishoreganj district have no bullock to till their lands. As a result, about 25 to 30 per cent land remains uncultivated every year. The poor farmers carry on agricultural work on share basis as they can not afford to buy bullock.

Moreover, prices of bullock have gone beyond the purchasing capacity of the marginal farmers in the aftermath of the June devastating floods.

At present a pair of bullock is being sold between Taka 10,000 and Taka 16,000 in the markets. The farmers of ten hire bullocks to cultivate their lands.

Many of the farmers even use milch cows to till their lands resulting in gradual reduction of milk output. Besides, various diseases like khura, gahula and enthor claim a heavy toll of cattle-heads every year. No effective measures have yet been taken to curb diseases by the veterinary department.

The veterinary hospital in the district also lacks necessary medicines and vaccination causing inconveniences to the farmers.

On the other hand, slaughtering of bullock has increased to a great extent following scarcity of fish in the market. Poor farmers have been compelled to sell their bullock and cows due to prevailing acute scarcity of fodder.