

District roundup

NETRAKONA

Smuggled goods seized, three arrested

Sept 25: Anti-smuggling task force seized fifty-nine cattle, and two trucks, and arrested three persons on charge of smuggling at Challisa Nagar on Netrakona-Mymensingh highway a few miles from here recently, reports BSS.

The law enforcing agency personnel on patrol challenged the drivers of the trucks that were carrying the cows. Neither they nor the persons travelling with them could show any valid papers for the cows.

They seized the cows, the trucks and arrested three persons. The cows were handed over to the local customs office and the arrested persons to Netrakona police.

RAJSHAHI

RU graduate representatives polls today

Sept 25: Election to twenty-five registered graduate representatives to the Rajshahi University senate will be held on September 26 a press release of the university said, reports BSS.

One hundred and eighteen candidates have sought election to the posts. The total number of voters for the election is nineteen thousand seven hundred and fifty.

Polling will begin at nine am and continue till five pm without break.

PATUAKHALI

Pirates loot away valuables from trawler

Sept 25: Three fishermen were injured and valuables worth about Taka one lakh were looted by pirates from a fishing trawler in the Bay of Bengal near Sonarchar area recently, reports BSS.

According to fishermen, the pirates numbering ten to twelve attacked the fishing trawler F-B-Bhadra in the deep sea near Sonarchar area under Galachipa thana of this district at midnight and looted away fishing nets, fish, engine parts and other valuables worth about Taka one lakh. The pirates injured three of the fishermen.

The injured persons were admitted to the Galachipa hospital. They are Jalal Majhi (32), Babul (25) and Abdul (24).

A case has been registered with Galachipa police.

SIRAJGANJ

Passengers suffer for road blockade

Sept 25: Hundreds of bus passengers were stranded at Chandarkona in Rayganj thana as the members of the Sirajganj Bus Owners' Association put blockade on Bogra-Nagrbari highway on Thursday, reports UNB.

Local people said the association blocked the road for collecting tolls from the Dhaka-bound buses coming from Bogra as the Bogra Bus Owners' Association failed to pay the tolls as per the demand.

About 1,500 buses with nearly 10,000 passengers stranded from both sides of the road from 8 am on Thursday.

Additional Police Superintendent Abdullah Azad rushed to the spot and urged the association to withdraw the blockade and he warned that if they failed to do so they would be used under the Terrorism Act.

MADRIPUR

Flood affects pond fisheries

Sept 25: Pond-fisheries in the district have been badly affected by the recent devastating flood, reports UNB.

According to a rough estimate the fish cultivators have suffered a loss of Taka 50 lakh due to overflowing of their ponds following heavy downpour and flash flood.

Official sources said fish fry went out of the ponds in large scale when the low-lying areas in four thanas of the district had gone under 3-4 feet flood waters.

Many owners of the ponds who took bank loan for pisciculture are passing their days in great anxiety as they would not be able to repay loan on schedule.

They urged the authorities to waive the loan and sanction new loans to encourage them to start fish cultivation a new.

PABNA

One gets life-term for killing wife

Sept 25: A man was awarded life-term by the District and Sessions Judge here on Thursday for killing his wife for dowry, reports UNB.

According to the prosecution story, Mamta Begum (22) was beaten to death by her husband Abdul Mannan (28) of village Dildia in Santhia thana on June 1, 1991 after his in-laws failed to give him a bicycle as dowry. She died on way to the thana health complex.

Mamta's brother filed a case with Santhia thana in this connection. Police charged against Abdul Mannan, his parents, a brother and a sister.

The court today gave the verdict after hearing 17 witnesses.

COX'S BAZAR

Three fishermen feared drowned

Sept 25: At least three fishermen were feared drowned in a boat capsized in the Bay of Bengal near Sonadia Island Wednesday night, reports UNB.

The fishing boat was learnt to have been overturned in the sea by surging waves while returning to Moleshkhali island.

Nine of the 12 people on board to reach the shore with the help of other fishing boats.

The rescued fishermen said they found another capsized boat there but could not tell the fate of the passengers of the sunken boat.

FENI

7 nomination papers of poura polls found valid

Sept 25: Nomination papers of all the seven chairman candidates for the Feni pourasabha election scheduled for October 17, were found valid by the Election Commissioner, reports UNB.

Another 67 candidates out of 71, who submitted nomination for 18 posts for Commissioner in 6 wards, were also found valid.

The chairman candidates are: Nurul Absar (BNP), Alhaj Kobbad Ahmed and Abdur Raman (AL), Jahangir Alam (JSD-Rab) and Amitur Raman, Mohammad Mostafa and Golam Kibria Chowdhury (Independent).

The last date for submitting nomination was Wednesday and for withdrawal September 30.

CHITTAGONG

4 cops hurt in gunfight with dacoits

Sept 25: Four policemen were injured with bullet in a gunfight with dacoits after they laid a den of the gang at Kumira in Shitakunda thana Wednesday night, reports UNB.

Police caught two notorious dacoits, Babul and Nurul Huda, while others fled firing guns.

The SI Moinul Afas (40) and his three constables — Salauddin (40), Priyalal Dey (40) and Kabi Ahmed (50) — were admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital with serious bullet wounds.

A police squad led by Motul Afas made the drive to nab the main accused of Kumira UP Chairman Rahmatullah murder case and gheraoed Mohammad Ali's hideout when the dacoits opened fire.

A case was filed with Shitakunda police in this connection.

JAMALPUR

Sonali Bank disburses Tk 20 lakh as loan

Sept 25: Sonali Bank has disbursed Taka 20 lakh as loan among the farmers of Jamalpur and Sherpur districts to raise dairy farms in the last 6 months, reports UNB.

An official of the bank here said that two branches of the bank in Jamalpur and Sherpur distributed the loans. Loans are also being distributed for poultry and pisciculture on soft terms.

The officials said about Taka 10 crore has been sanctioned for the purpose. The amount will be disbursed phase by phase. Under the programme 75 farm owners submitted applications for loans.

The bank sources said the educated unemployed youths were also getting soft-term loans under the same programme.

National

Borders in Rajshahi now smugglers' paradise

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Sept 25: Smuggling is going on in huge quantity along the borders of the district.

It is reported that the smugglers are active even at day times.

Heroin, wine, clothes, cosmetics and cattle are smuggled into Bangladesh while gold, hides and skin are smuggled out of our territory regularly.

The 'safest' routes of smuggling are: Alapur, Atarpura, Mirganj and Char Choumada under Bagha police station, Premtala, Bidirpur, Char Hanomantala Nagar and Char Asaridah under Godagari thana.

It is reported that at least 2,000 tolas of gold are smuggled out to India everyday through Char Asaridah, a remote village adjacent to Indian border.

It is learnt that rice, paddy and jute are also smuggled to India as the prices of the items are lower in Bangladesh.

A political leader of the border belt area said that such large-scale smuggling is possible only in cooperation with the law enforcing agencies.

RU Registered Graduate polls

RAJSHAHI, Sept 25: Election of Registered Graduate

representatives

</div