

National

CPEP in northern districts

Attendance in pry schools increasing gradually

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Sept 26 : The Compulsory Primary Education Programme (CPEP) in 17 selected thanas of 16 northern districts is getting positive response.

The Directorate of Primary Education organised 68 rallies in 60 primary schools which were attended by 29,055 mothers of school going children in the northern zone of the country.

It is learnt that under the Compulsory Primary Education Programme (CPEP), the government primarily took up some selected primary schools of 17 thanas of Sirajganj, Pabna, Bogra, Jatpurhat, Natore, Chaitpawabganj, Naogaon, Rangpur, Gaibandha, Nilphamari, Kurigram, Lalmonirhat, Dinajpur, Thakurgaon and Panchagarh districts.

Programme of mothers' rallies was taken up to motivate the housewives in alleviating illiteracy.

Official sources said that due to the rallies, the attendance in the primary schools has in-

creased to 75.04 per cent from 74.44 per cent earlier. The rate of attendance is increasing gradually. Following success of mother's rally, few more such programmes have been taken up in two primary schools each from 12 thanas in the northern districts.

About 18,000 acres of land have been remaining uncultivated due to acute crisis and abnormally high price of aman paddy saplings in Sirajganj district.

About 108.46 crore remained outstanding with the farmers in seven thanas, many of whom rendered homeless on account of the recent erosion by the rivers Jamuna and Old Brahmaputra.

The loans were disbursed among the farmers by various commercial banks to support them in purchasing cattlehead, agricultural equipment and augmenting food production and fish cultivation, official sources said.

Despite repeated reminders, they could not repay their arrears due to acute poverty. Many of the farmers lost all their belongings due to natural disasters including recurrent flooding, local people said.

At present 800 (80 bundles) of aman saplings are being sold at Taka 200 which is said to be too costly and the marginal farmers can hardly afford to buy at such a price.

District roundup

BARISAL

Tk 9.98 cr sanctioned for 10 projects

Sept 26 : Taka 9.98 crore have been sanctioned for ten projects in Barisal, Jhalakathi and Pirojpur district under Barisal road division during the current fiscal year, reports BSS.

According to an official source, the projects are earth work, haring bond, bridge and culvert, pavement, R C culvert etc. Roads and Highways Department (RHD) will implement the projects.

Of the total, Taka 8.13 crore have been allocated for the construction of 39.8 kilometres earth work, 29.55 kilometres haring bond, 50 bridges and culverts and 39.65 kilometres of pavement and Taka 1.35 crore for repair of two kilometre of earth work, and 7.50 kilometres seal coat.

Another report says: Police seized 300 grams of hemp and five bottles of phenylidyl from Vatikhana and Kaunta areas of the town Saturday, a police source said.

Police also arrested two persons.

RAJSHAHI

Acute housing problem

Sept 26 : Housing problem has become acute in the city over the last two years as the population has increased considerably, reports BSS.

But with the increase in population new houses or residential quarters could not be increased due to high prices of land and construction materials. Government has also not taken any step to solve the accommodation problems of its employees.

Many government, non-government and business organisations opened their offices in this metropolitan city. Private houses are being used as offices and residential quarters for them.

Taking advantage of the situation many house owners are charging exorbitant rents for their houses.

MBAZAR

21.43 lakh cattlehead, poultry birds vaccinated

Sept 26 : The district Livestock Department has vaccinated about 21.43 lakh cattlehead and poultry birds in six thanas in the last fiscal year, says BSS.

According to official sources, it helped reduce the foot and mouth diseases of cattle and ranikhet diseases of poultry birds and increase production.

Usually, the vaccines FMD (foot and mouth disease) for cattle, and RDV (ranikhet disease vaccine) and BCR (baby chicks ranikhet) for adult and baby chicks respectively are given once or twice a year.

Another report says: Police recovered the body of a day labourer from a pond near Kathalkandi area in Kamalganj thana of the district last week.

The dead was identified as Md Kudu Miah (35), a day labourer of Chygori village under the thana.

Police suspect that the victim was stangled to death. But the motive behind the attack could not be identified immediately.

A case was filed with the Rajbari thana, but none was arrested yet.

A case has been filed with local police in this connection.

KHULNA

Reception to successful SSC students

Sept 26 : A formal reception was accorded on Thursday to the students who secured positions in the merit list of the SSC examination held under Jessor Board of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education this year, reports BSS.

Khulna City Corporation organised the reception at the auditorium of the corporation. Fourteen meritorious students including ten females attended the reception. The Mayor of the Khulna City Corporation was present at the chief guest.

Mayor Shaikh Tayyub Rahman distributed prizes among the students.

LALMONIRHAT

Housewife commits suicide

Sept 26 : A housewife allegedly committed suicide by jumping from a running train near outer signal of Lalmonirhat Railway Station, reports BSS.

The dead, identified as Sufia Begum (30) wife of Ahmed Ali of Dauljor village committed suicide on Sept 12 following unbearable abdomen pain and poverty.

Police sources said Sufia Begum jumped from the Lalmonirhat bound 452 down train coming from Burimari.

A case has been filed with the local police.

FARIDPUR

Principal of college receives stab injuries

Sept 26 : Five people, including the Principal of the Rajbari Government College, his wife and son received grievous stab and axe injuries by a group of masked miscreants at Sajjankanda area in Rajbari town on Thursday night, police said here Friday, reports BSS.

Police said three youngmen wearing mask and armed with lethal weapons entered into the house of Principal Ehtiya Islam Chowdhury, 55, at Sajjankanda area in the town while the family was watching a weekly TV drama at 9 pm.

The miscreants hit Principal Ehtiya, his wife Rabeya Begum, 46, and Associate Professor of the Political Science Department of the same college and their son Ripon, 18, with knife and Chinese axe indiscriminately.

On hearing their hue and cry, Mukshed, 15, a student of class ten of the Rajbari Government School and Santu Mollah, 40, who was visiting local MP Kazi Keramat Ali's residence, a nextdoor neighbour of the principal, rushed to the house and also received knife injuries.

All the injured were admitted to the Rajbari Sadar Hospital and a Mobile OT team including the Civil Surgeon of Faridpur rushed there. They were later shifted to Dhaka for better treatment.

Meanwhile police picked up three people for interrogation but motive behind the attack could not be identified immediately.

A case was filed with the Rajbari thana, but none was arrested yet.

A case has been filed with local police in this connection.

One killed, 7 injured in clashes

RANGPUR, Sept 26 : A woman was killed and three others were injured in a clash over possession of char-land in river Teesta at Nahali union in Gongaon thana of the district on Monday, police said here on Friday, reports BSS.

Feroza Begum (36), was killed when she tried to prevent rival party from occupying the disputed land.

The body was sent to Rangpur Medical College Hospital for autopsy. The injured were admitted to local thana health complex.

A case was filed with Gongachara police station in this connection.

Another report says: Four students of Mithapukur Degree College were injured when alleged Shibirites attacked on a procession brought out on the college campus Tuesday, protesting the killing of Rajshahi University students Jubayer Chowdhury Rimu.

Pro-Awami League, Chhatra League and JSD backed Chhatra League brought out a joint procession on the college campus to protest the gruesome killing of Rimu by the Shibirites on Rajshahi University campus on Sunday.

Alarming rise of pye dogs

Another report says : Alarming rise of pye dogs in different parts of the district

Unhygienic condition of hotels, restaurants

KISHOREGANJ, Sept 26 : Public health at the district headquarters is being threatened due to unhygienic condition of the hotels and restaurants causing great concern among residents, reports BSS.

Over the years most of the hotels and restaurants at the district headquarters, Bajipur and Bhalrab river port towns have sprung up by the side of lanes and by-lanes haphazardly.

Most of these hotels are dirty. Foodstuffs have been prepared and stored in most unhygienic way. The people who come to the town for various purposes are to eat this and many reported fell ill.

Local people informed that time and again they brought the matter to the concerned authorities but no action has yet been taken in this regard.

Inaction of the poura authorities and district administration in this regard paved the ways of the traders to carry out their illegal business freely.

Local leaders demanded of the district administration to look into the matter for the greater interest of public health.

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Notes From Magura

MAGURA, Sept 26 : A day-long workshop on compulsory primary education was held at Sreepur thana auditorium under the auspices of Education Department, reports BSS.

Deputy Commissioner of the district Chandra Sarker attended the function as chief guest.

Speakers at the inaugural function discussed on development of compulsory primary education programme and urged the local people to come forward to make it a success.

The meeting was addressed, among others, by the thana Nirbahi Officers, UP Chairmen, teachers and local elite.

Boy killed in tree fall

A boy was killed as a tree fell on him at Kapashhati village in Sadar thana last week.

Family sources said Al Amin (7), son of Mokhlesur Rahman

was sawing the same tree cutting by others. Suddenly the tree fell on him killing him on the spot on Sept 15.

The body was sent to Sadar Hospital for autopsy and a case was filed with the police.

Another report adds : A worker of a poultry farm at Goalpara of Sadar thana of the district was electrocuted on Tuesday.

The victim Omar Ali (20) died on the spot when he came in contact with a live electric wire while working in the farm.

20 injured in road accident

Twenty passengers were injured, six seriously, in an bus accident on Magura-Kumarkhal road at Parmanduli village in Sadar thana last Saturday.

Police said a Khuina bound night coach from Dhaka tumbled into a road side ditch after its driver lost control at midnight on September 18.

Of the injured 10 were admitted to Sadar Hospital. They are Ansar Ali (60), and Humayun Kabir of Jessor, Mamun Ali (34) of Barisal, Uttam Kumar (20) of Patuakhali and Monarjan (30) of Faridpur.

A case was filed with the local police in this connection.

Fugitive accused arrested

Police arrested a fugitive from Ashba village in Salika thana last Saturday.

The arrested Madan Chandra Mandal (55) of Dhancshwari village in the thana was a convict and has been wanted by police for long.

Held under the auspices of Purbanchal Sangbad Patri Parishad, the seminar was participated among others by President of Federal Union of

Journalists (BFUJ) Oias Karmal Chowdhury, BFUJ General Secretary Amanullah Kabir, Managing Editor of the Daily Azadi M A Malek, president of Chittagong Union of Journalists Nazir Ahmed, journalists Mainul Alam, Mohammad Muslen Khan, and Fazley Rabbi.

The convenor of the parishad and the president of the seminar Mainuddin Kaderi Sawkat presented the main paper.

The environment minister said in a democratic society people have fundamental rights of the people to know the information.

Referring to the distribution of advertisements, the minister said present government was equally distributing government advertisements but some newspapers are not getting equal allocation because of increase of number of newspapers in the country.

Tk 4.62 crore for post flood agri rehabilitation

From Our Correspondent

SYLHET, Sept 26 : A total of Taka four crore 62 lakh 52 thousand has been sanctioned by class I Magistrate, Jahangir Hossain Chowdhury, swooped on two engine boats carrying the smuggled goods like 4500 kilograms of sugar, 1485 kilograms of chilli and 2600 safety match boxes and seized goods along with the boats from the river Surma. The men on the boat, however, managed to swing and escape. The total value of the seized goods and boats had been estimated to be about Taka three lakh 45 thousand, informed an official source.

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Preparation to observe world aboriginal year

SHERPUR, Sept 26 : The Sherpur thana unit of the Tribal Welfare Association held a meeting here recently in connection with the observance of the international aboriginal year, reports BSS.

Dinesh Simang, Acting Chairman of the Tribal Welfare Association (TWA) presided over the meeting. Promode Mankin MP and Abdur Razzaque Ashish Chairman, Sherpur Paurashawar were among those who spoke on the occasion.

A large number of tribals attended the meeting.

Help establish national consensus for uplift

CHITTAGONG, Sept 26 : Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Abdullah-Al-Noman said here on Friday that the BNP government was striving to establish a national consensus for accelerating the democratic process, reports BSS.

Participating at a seminar as chief guest the minister said it was Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman who fought for establishing a national consensus among the people for national prosperity.

The seminar, 'Flourishment of newspapers in a democratic system and right to know information' was held at the city corporation auditorium here with editor of the Iztihad Mainuddin Kaderi Sawkat in the chair.

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Primary school going children decreasing in rural areas

ternatives they encourage their children to take up jobs.

During harvesting season, a good number of land labourers along with their kids migrate to other places in search of work.

As a result, the primary schools in remote areas are facing acute shortage of students and the problem is being intensified day by day.

Another report from Maulavibazar adds: Twenty-two registered non-government with be reconstructed under the Registered Primary School Development Scheme in the district.

A sum of Taka 92.40 lakh has been sanctioned for the implementation of the scheme.

These schools were damaged due to natural calamities like flood, storm and cycl