

## National

## District roundup

## JAMALPUR

Pry teachers  
gherao DC's  
office

Sept 27: Non-government primary school teachers of the district gheraoed the office of the Deputy Commissioner on Thursday to press home their four-point demand, reports UNB.

They also submitted a memorandum to the DC for early fulfilment of their demands.

The demands include nationalisation of all non-government primary schools, sanction of grants before nationalisation as per the previous rules or fixing the basic salary at Taka 1500.

## SREEMANGAL

Death  
condoled

Sept 27: A condolence meeting was held on September 22 at the auditorium of Sreemangal pourashava to condole the death of Nikunjabharoti Goswami, a firebrand leader of the quit India movement and freedom fighter, who died in Sylhet recently, says BSS.

Presided over by Sreemangal Pourasava Chairman Mohammad Mahsin Ahmed Madhu, the meeting was addressed by Surja Mani Dev's the chief guest, Advocate Mujibur Rahman Mujib, Headmistress Jyotsna Goswami, Prof Syed Mujibur Rahman and S K Roy.

The meeting requested the chairman of Sreemangal pourasava to name a road of the pourasava after Nikunja Bihari Goswami.

## MADRIPUR

Unregistered  
marriages  
on rise

Sept 27: Number of unregistered marriages is on rise in the rural areas of the district leading to oppression on poor women-folk, reports UNB.

High charges and official complexities force most of the poor people to avoid registration of their marriages. The tendency is found among the distressed people like marginal and landless farmers to a great extent.

Taking advantage of the situation, many dishonest bridegrooms are engaged in divorce and re-marry without any restriction. Daughters of poor people, whose marriages were not registered very often fall in troubles and are being tortured by their husbands and members of in-laws.

Most of these helpless people cannot seek legal supports against their husbands in the hours of need due to non registration of their marriages.

Meanwhile, local people complained that some dishonest marriage registrars are taking exorbitant fees without giving receipts.

## SIRAJGANJ

Nirmul  
leader  
beaten

Sept 27: A local leader of Ghatak Dalai Nirmul Committee was beaten up by group of miscreants in Shahjadpur thana Friday night, police said, reports UNB.

Convenor of the thana Nirmul Committee Abdul Bashar, who is also President of the thana Workers Party, was admitted to Shahjadpur Health Complex with serious injuries.

Awami League President Motahar Hossain and General Secretary Abdul Latif Mirza, district Workers Party General Secretary Farhad Hossain and Joint Convenor of district Nirmul Committee Advocate Abdur Rahman condemned the attack and demanded exemplary punishment to the culprits.

## PABNA

Two killed  
in boat  
collision

Sept 27: Two cattle traders were killed and four others injured when two mechanised ferry boats collided and sank in the confluence of Gumanji and Barai rivers in Bhangura thana Saturday, reports UNB.

Police said, Chhaimuddin Mollah (55) drowned while Mofazzal Hossain (35) died on way to Bhangura hospital.

The two boats — one moving from Austamonia (Naogaon) towards Bhangura and the other from the opposite direction with cattle on board, collided head-on and capsized at 10 am.

At least 10 cattle were washed away by current.

The injured were rushed to Bhangura Health Complex and a case was filed.

## LALMONIRHAT

Coach  
services  
disrupted

Sept 27: Night coach and 'mail' bus services between the district and capital Dhaka came to a halt on Friday for an indefinite period as Bogra transport owners blocked way following a tussle over toll collection, reports UNB.

A new Lalmonirhat-Sirajganj bus route via Bogra was opened on September 13. Bogra Motor Owners Association allegedly demanded subscription for using the route, which the Lalmonirhat Motor Owners Association refused.

Lalmonirhat Motor Owners Association said six buses of Bogra owners ply via Lalmonirhat to Kurigram, they do not take any subscription. So, they termed Bogra Association's demand illogical.

On Thursday, Lalmonirhat Motor Owners Association stopped bus from Borobari on the Bogra-Kurigram route in a counter-move.

Later, Bogra Motor Owners Association stopped all the night coaches and direct buses on the Dhaka-Lalmonirhat route, causing serious inconveniences to commuters, especially the importers using the Burimari land port.

**BARISAL**  
BSB to give  
Tk 84 lakh  
as industrial  
loan

Sept 27: Bangladesh Silpa Bank (BSB) will disburse Taka 84 lakh as industrial loan in six southern districts under Barisal division during the current fiscal year, reports BSS.

According to a bank source the amount may increase. The source said that the propensity of the people to establish industries units in these districts is not encouraging.

**GAZIPUR**  
Evolve modern  
technology to  
augment  
output of rice

Sept 27: Agriculture and Irrigation Minister M Majidul Haq Saturday urged the agricultural scientists to evolve modern technology to augment the production of rice and to take immediate steps to popularise it among the farmers, says BSS.

He emphasised the need for expansion of functions of rice seed and genetic resources laboratory to cater to the growing needs while he was visiting Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRI) here.

Addressing the concerned high officials, the minister said the government was firmly determined to provide all basic needs of the common people.

He said government would extend all cooperation in appropriate technology research to sustain development process in agricultural sector.

Majidul Haq went round different rice research plots and laboratory, computer and agricultural equipment sections of the institute.

**HABIGANJ**  
Reception

Sept 27: A reception organised by Habiganj Press Club in honour of National Press Club President Hassan Shahriar was held at local Circuit House auditorium on September 20, says BSS.

President of the Habiganj Press Club President Amir Hussain, the function was attended by Jagul Chowdhury, Special Correspondent of BSS, Main Uddin Chowdhury, Editor weekly Chitkar and G M Gaus, Editor weekly Dhaka Mail as special guests.

It was also addressed, among others, by Martuji Miah, Principal local Brindaban College; Additional District Magistrate Suabur Rahman, President of the District Bar Association Syed Afroz Bakht, Shafiqur Rahman and Jahanara Asfar.

Later, a cultural function was held.

**KUSHTIA**  
Arms  
recovered

Sept 27: Kushtia police recovered one pipe gun, four rifle cartridges, three gun cartridges, ten SMO cartridges, one sword, and one spear, from a graveyard recently, reports BSS.

In this connection police arrested eleven persons including the leader of the team. Police said several cases are lying pending against them. In another operation police recovered one pipe gun and two rounds of cartridges, one Chinese axe and one razorblade from a house near food office.

According to an official source new building mea-



SYLHET: The Gopalganj thana police recently seized some current nets. These were later burnt in presence of local people. — Star photo

## Shortage of doctor, fund, medicine in RMCH

genic atmosphere.

The hospital authorities are now capable of deploying 121 physicians and another 137 internes to provide necessary medical care to patients, reports UNB.

Posts of Professor in Medicine, Surgery, Gynecology, Neurosurgery, Nephrology and Cardiology units remained vacant for a long time.

It is learnt that patients have to arrange medicines, bandage, gauge, saline and other necessary items. The RMCH authorities, however, said they had the capability to afford life-saving medicines.

Patients allege that nurses, technicians and lower class employees misbehave with them. Nurses even forget about maintaining temperature chart, giving the patients medicine and saline and conducting post-operative mouth wash.

The hospital complex re-

mains dumped under garbage for days creating an unhygienic environment as the municipal vans do not remove these regularly.

Cats, cockroaches and even dogs were residing permanently in the hospital, causing further deterioration in the environmental situation, a doctor alleged.

A few senior doctors practising outside the hospital and some technicians also working in private clinics have formed a vicious circle with the help of local mastans, owners of private clinics, pharmacies and rickshawpullers for corruption, pilferage and blackmailing the patients, sufferers alleged.

The RMCH authorities said it was impossible for them at present to improve the situation unless the budgetary allocation is increased as per demand, sufficient physicians and technicians are deployed and adequate logistic supports ensured.

## CPEP in Rajshahi: 37,000 more primary teachers needed

RAJSHAHI, Sept 27: The compulsory primary education programme (CPEP) in the division is being hampered due to shortage of teaching staff and other educational appliances, reports UNB.

Among the 16 districts in the division, 15 are running without any District Primary Education Officers. About 31 posts of Primary Thana Education Officers and 90 posts of Assistant Primary Education Officers are lying vacant in the division, official sources said.

Besides, 2,312 posts of teachers remained vacant in various primary schools in the division hampering implementation of universal primary education programme.

About 100 clerical posts including office assistants, typists and cashiers are also lying vacant for long.

Moreover, shortage of furniture, educational materials, accommodation facilities and above all the acute poverty of the students are aggravating the situation further.

This year about 33,000 students were enrolled with various primary schools in the division and the students and teachers ratio is 50:1. At least 66,000 teachers are needed as against its present strength of 29,000 to cope with the situation.

Guardians complained that

a good number of teachers always remain absent and some attend the school in late hours though their attendance in the register is being shown normally.

Local people urged the concerned authorities to take necessary steps to make the primary education programme a success in the locality by providing all essential and necessary supports as early as possible.

**Mosque based  
edu centres**

BSS from Barisal adds: A total of 2,340 students has been studying in mosque-based education centres run by Islamic Foundation in the districts of Barisal, Jhalakathi, Bhola, Pirojpur, Patuakhali and Barguna.

Of the total, 540 students are in 4-5 year age-group, 540 students in 6-10 year age-group, 540 students in 11-14 year age-group and 720 students in 15-35 year age-group.

Inadequate water supply and absence of toilet system is a major setback in the primary schools. With the increase of enrolment of the students in every school accommodation problem is multiplying.

Shortage of teachers is another problem which hampers the normal education of the students.

Akhteruzzaman Bablu, was published in the national dailies on July 11.

suring 75 feet in length and 22 feet in width with 7 feet verandah for non-government school are each in 27 thanas of the districts will be constructed during the time. Each single storied building will cost Taka 15.56 crore during the current fiscal year, reports BSS.

According to an official source, the projects being implemented include construction of buildings, roads, culverts, drain, sanitation, supermarket and bus terminal.

The source said that during the last financial year 19 schemes at an estimated cost of Taka one crore 48 lakh 96 thousand were done in 19 thanas of the districts. The schemes were construction of 19 non-government schools buildings.

The source said that during the last financial year 19 schemes at an estimated cost of Taka 2 crore 11 lakh 68 thousand in districts of Faridpur, Rajbari, Gopalganj, Madaripur and Sharifpur during current fiscal year, the source said.

Another report says: Facilities Department will implement 27 schemes at an estimated cost of Taka 2 crore 11 lakh 68 thousand in districts of Faridpur, Rajbari, Gopalganj, Madaripur and Sharifpur during current fiscal year.

According to an official source new building mea-

## Aman paddy on one lakh acres under pest attack

### From Our Correspondent

JAMALPUR, Sept 27: The standing aman paddy fields on about one lakh acres of land under pest attack in seven thanas of the district.

The pests are locally known as lada puka, pamri puka, lal puka which have attacked the Rupa-Aman paddy fields in various parts of the district.

According to an unofficial source, out of the total areas, under pest attacked, 8840 acres of land in Melandah, 6120 acres of land in Madariganj, 9511 acres of land in Dewanganj, 7671 acres of land in Islampur, 9131 acres of land in Bakshiganj, 9123 acres of land in Sarishaband and 15840 acres of land in Jamalpur thana.

Experienced quarters expressed that if the government do not take any effective measures immediately the situation may go out of control.

The farmers of the affected areas cannot buy the required quantity of pesticides which are being sold in the local market at an exorbitant price.

Confirming the extensive pest attack in seven thanas of the district, the district Agriculture Officer informed this correspondent that the to shortage of pesticides and spray machines, they are un-

able to stop the pest attack.

The farmers of the district have urged the concerned authorities to take immediate measures to save the standing crops from pest attack.

The non-government Primary Teachers' Association submitted a memorandum to Jalal Ahmed, Deputy Commissioner of Jamalpur to press home their four points demand.

Earlier, a meeting was held at local Singhani High School ground with its district unit president, Abdus Sattar while it was addressed among others by Ziaul Haque, Abdus Kuddus, Sharafat Ali Hawlader, Dedarul Alam and others.

Melandah thana police recovered about one mound of ganja tree from village Pathan Para in Melandah thana recently.

Acting a secret information, a police party led by SI Abdul Bari raided a house of the said village and recovered the ganja trees.

### Indian cattle trafficking increases

MAGURA, Sept 27: Trafficking of cattlehead from India through different borders of the frontier districts has increased alarmingly by the organised gang, reports UNB.

Selling of these cattlehead is also going on in different hats and bazars openly and are being carried by trucks to the markets of Dhaka and Chittagong.

According to the local people, 10-20 trucks loaded with smuggled cattle are pouring into Magura daily from outside border areas.

A gang of musclemen with alleged collaboration of some dishonest officials are helping the smugglers in carrying out their business.

As the engine driven boats have steadily been increased over the years thousands of traditional boatmen of these areas are passing hard days without having their daily earnings.

Journey by mechanised boats is often hazardous due to lack of system control. There is no device to control the speed of mechanised boats during the journey. A boat cannot be halted swiftly in case of

## Mechanised boats make traditional boatmen unemployed

### Emergency

In addition, the boats are driven only in forward gear and not backward. There is no gear box in it. Moreover, instead of search light, lantern is used in these boats at night resulting in serious accidents now and then. Black smoke emitted by these boats is also hazardous for public health.

### Businessman robbed of Tk 48,000

#### From Our Correspondent

KISHORGANJ, Sept 27: Plying of mechanised boats in large numbers in different parts of the district have thrown hundreds of traditional boatmen out of profession, reports UNB.

The engine boats are ferrying passengers and cargo to Mitamai, Astagram, Nikli, Bhairab, Itna, Karimganj, Katiad, Bajipur, Tarai, Kuliarchar and Hossainpur thanas.

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## Help set up national heart foundations at district level

### CHANDPUR