

District roundup

TANGAIL

Construction work completed

Oct 30: Construction of Taka ten crore feeder road from Vatkura to Basail in the district has recently been completed, says BSS.

The ten-kilometre long road has been made under double base bituminous surface treatment system. The road ran over the Bangshai river bridge and seventeen other box and pipe culverts at certain intervals.

NAOGAON

Ambulances for health complexes

Oct 30: The government has given five new ambulances for the Thana Health Complexes of the district, reports UNB.

The district Civil Surgeon Dr SM Nazrul Islam handed over the keys of the ambulances to the respective thana health complexes heads.

Elite of the town and local health department officials were present on the occasion.

Mentionable that in the absence of ambulances in these thanas medicare facilities had been hampering greatly for a long time. It was difficult to carry the emergency patients to the health complexes or district headquarters.

With the sanctioning of the ambulances a long felt demand of the people of these thana had been met.

NARSHINGDI

Diabetic hospital inaugurated

Oct 30: A diabetic hospital was inaugurated here in the town last week to provide medical treatment to the diabetic patients, reports UNB.

Labour and Manpower Minister Abdul Mannan was present as chief guest while State Minister for Planning Dr Abdul Moen Khan, Abdul Ali Mridha MP and KJ Hamida Khanam MP attended the function as special guests.

The function was also attended by Deputy Commissioner Abdus Samad Mallick, Civil Surgeon Dr Rashiduzzaman Sarder, TNO Firoj Shahabuddin and Secretary of Narshingdi Diabetic Samity.

The hospital, temporarily housing at Mita Nursing Home, was founded by the District Diabetic Samity in cooperation with local elites.

LALMONIRHAT

One commits suicide

Oct 30: A mother, shocked at the death of her beloved son, committed suicide in Noghohat village in sadar thana of the district on October 22, says UNB.

Police said Jahanara Begum (28), wife of Abdus Sattar, was blessed with a son in June 1992 after giving birth to three daughters.

On October 21, her 16-month old son crawled into a nearby pond and drowned.

Being shocked at the death of her only son, Jahanara Begum hanged herself on the following day.

An AD case was filed with the sadar police.

COMILLA

'Make best use of existing facilities'

Oct 30: President Abdur Rahman Biswas Wednesday called upon the students of cadet colleges to make efforts to build themselves as worthy citizens of the country by making best use of the existing facilities, reports BSS.

He said that the cadets should earn distinctions, both in academic and extra-academic activities, so that they could be equipped with the qualities of a real educated man and dedicate themselves in the services of the country.

The president was speaking as the chief guest at the 10th founding anniversary function of Comilla Cadet College and first reunion of the old cadets held at the college auditorium at Kotbari.

Organised by the Association of Comilla Old Cadets (ACOC) the function was also addressed by Adjutant General of Bangladesh Army and the President of the Governing Council of Cadet Colleges Major General Amin Ahmed Chowdhury, Principal of the college Masood Hasan, President of ACOC, Faizul Bashar and General Secretary M Golam Sarwar.

FENI

Tk 40 lakh given for 5 schools

Oct 30: Government has sanctioned Taka 40 lakh for development of five non-government high schools of the district, says UNB.

Facilities department of the Ministry of Education is to implement the development works under the non-government school development programme.

The schools are: Feni GA Academy, Chhagalnaya Pilot School, Mangalkandi High School, Rajapur High School and Fulgazi Pilot High School.

Their works are expected to be completed within four months.

Meanwhile, development works of another five schools have been completed during the last financial year at a cost of some Tk. 40 lakh. The schools are: Fulgazi Girls High School, Sonagazi Girls School, Chhagalnaya Girls School, Dagonbhuyan Girls School and Parsuram Girls School.

PABNA

5 AL activists rounded up

Oct 30: Police in a special drive arrested five activists of Awami League from different places in the town Thursday night for their alleged involvement in terrorist activities, reports UNB.

The arrested are Altamas Hossain, Dulal Uddin, Ratan Mollah, Dulal and Ashraf Ali.

Police said they were wanted in connection with various cases including under that of the Anti-terrorism Act.

Police began the drive on Monday last and so far arrested leaders and activists of different political parties including the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal.

SIRAJGANJ

Enquiry into defalcation case demanded

Oct 30: Different political parties and local leaders demanded high-powered enquiry into the Taka 1.50 crore defalcation case of Water Development Board, reports UNB.

Nine officials of WDB were suspended on October 19 for their alleged misappropriation of the money by issuing false work order and bills against 50 enlisted contractors of the Board's local office early last month.

The leaders, demanding immediate investigation into the case by a high-powered parliamentary enquiry team, alleged that the local anti corruption bureau kept silent on the issue and the accused officials were trying to hitch up the case.

The officials are: former executive engineer of Sirajganj BWDB Bishnupada Halder, sub-divisional engineers Jamiruddin, Abdus Salam Chowdhury and Fazul Karim, sub-assistant engineers Ansar Ali, Abdul Mannan Matbar, Moinul Haque, Abdul Bari and Jainal Abedin.

JAMALPUR

Two arrested for kidnapping

Oct 30: Police arrested two people recently from Gorakanda village in sadar thana on charge of kidnapping a foodgrain trader, says UNB.

Arrested Nurul Akanda (50) and Sultan (25) were suspected as members of an organised gang who abducted Rafiqul Islam with Tk 50,000 from his shop at Lahirikanda bazar in sadar thana on Sunday.

They also demanded Tk one lakh from the employees of the shop as ransom.

A case was filed with the sadar police the same day and police arrested the two.

MADARIPUR

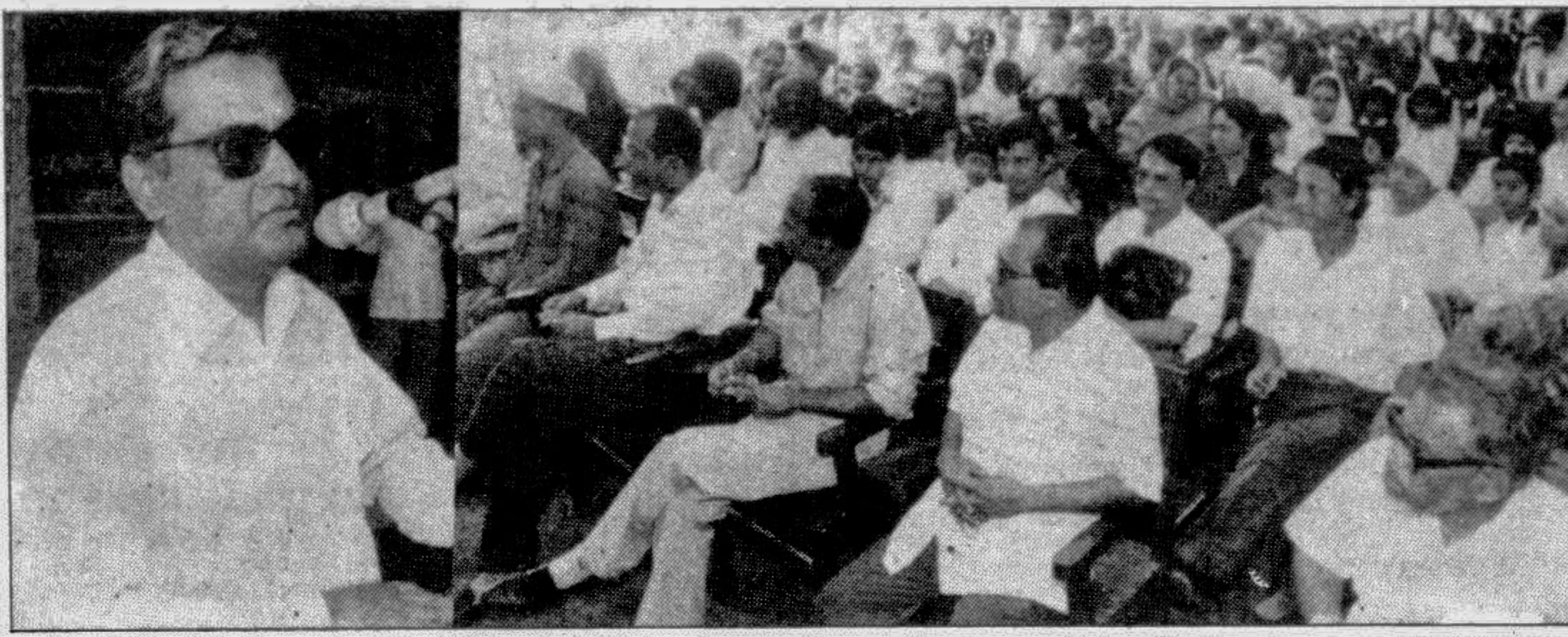
Valuables worth Taka 13,000 looted

Oct 30: Dacoits looted valuables and cash worth about Tk 13,000 from a residence at Shantinagar area in the town last week, reports UNB.

Family sources said dacoits numbering about seven armed with sophisticated weapons stormed the residence of freedom fighter Belayet Hossain on Oct 20 and looted the valuables and cash at gun point.

While fleeing, the dacoits left behind a TV set and a ceiling fan on the road after local people gheraoed them.

A General Diary was filed with the sadar thana. Local people said burglary and dacoity are often committed in the area, but there is no police vigilance for their protection.



Prof M Badiul Alam, Pro-VC of Chittagong University speaking on the inaugural day of cultural contest of Chittagong Varsity College recently. — CU photo

Woes of rly passengers

From Our Correspondent

KURIGRAM, Oct 30: Woes of railway passengers travelling on Kurigram-Chilmari line are increasing day by day.

Absence of some basic amenities has made the train journey on the route troublesome.

Late arrival of trains is a regular feature causing immense difficulties to the waiting passengers including the women, children and old people.

Only two trains run up and down on the line and these cannot cope with the demand of thousands of passengers, everyday. The trains often run over crowded. Only four or five small and damaged compartments are attached to a train.

Passengers find it difficult to board the compartments due to heavy rush of people. They often travel on the foot-board at the risk of life.

Besides, some people are found carrying their goods, particularly fish, gunny bags, cloths in the passengers' compartments, instead of putting the same in luggage vans.

Fans, water tapes and lights in almost all the compartments remain out of order causing inconveniences to the passengers. The compartments and latrines are not cleaned regularly.

There is no separate compartment for the women passengers, who can hardly board the train in the rush of male

passengers.

There is no shed at the platforms in some stations on this line. The passengers have to wait for hours together for the trains under the scorching heat of the sun or in the rains.

There are no waiting rooms for the second class passengers in almost all the stations on the line.

The passengers on this route expect the authority concerned to do the needful to mitigate the sufferings of the people.

The seventeenth National Science and Technology Week-'93 was observed at Kurigram Govt College amidst great enthusiasm.

Mohammad Abdul Haque, Deputy Commissioner, Kurigram, formally inaugurated the week with a call to increase production by utilizing improved technological methods for the socio economic development of the country.

Presided over by Professor Shyama Proshad Roy, Principal of the college, the functions was addressed, among others, by Prof Mostafa Khondoker, member-secretary of the science week Udjapan Committee, Majbar Rahman, Vice-Principal of Govt Mahila College, Muhammad Abdul Ali, Vice-Principal of Kurigram Govt College, Advocate Shamsuddin Ahmed, President, Kurigram Zila BNP, Muhammad Abdul Haque, DC and Professor Shyama Proshad Roy.

Lawyers protest siege of Hazratbal

From Our Correspondent

KHULNA, Oct 30: Khulna Ainjibi Samity brought out a procession in the city on Wednesday in protest against the siege of Hazratbal, a Muslim shrine in Kashmir, by Indian forces, reports UNB.

The procession paraded the main streets of the city, chanting slogans against the Indian government for the siege.

Later, a rally was held at its auditorium where Advocate Abdul Quader, Sheikh Mohammad Yunus and Advocate Amjad Hossain addressed.

The speakers were critical of atrocities against Muslims in Kashmir and demanded an immediate end to the siege.

Indian forces surrounded the Kashmir's holiest shrine where Muslim militants and civilians trapped since October 15.

Obituary

Al-haj Amanot Ali Gazi, a social worker and philanthropist died of appendicitis ailments on October 18 at his village home at Bhuralia of Shymnagar thana under Sakhira dist. He was 73.

He left behind five sons, three daughters, a number of grand sons and grand daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

His eldest son, Azizul Haque is the Chairman of Bhuralia Union Parishad and his eldest son-in-law SK Mawia Bakhsa is one of the Dy General Managers of Bangladesh Bank.

Female labourers on rise day by day

NETRAKONA, Oct 30: The number of female labourers is rapidly increasing day by day in all the ten thanas of the district due to economic stringency, reports UNB.

According to a survey conducted by an NGO, there are 25,000 female day labourers in Sadar, Atpara, Mohanganj, Purbadhala, Barhatta, Kendua and Durgapur thanas of the district.

They are working in brick-fields, hotels, construction sites in town and urban areas, crop fields and road repairing, works under Food for Works Programme. However, many female labourers became jobless as government has

stopped food for works programme recently.

The survey report said that some women are also working in bidi factories.

Due to recurrent floodings, draught and other natural calamities a large number of rural women have become destitute. As a result they are forced to choose hard work to maintain their livelihood. Meanwhile, many of them have turned beggars in the absence of job opportunities.

The report suggested the government to take immediate measures to rehabilitate the jobless women labourers under a special scheme.

Tk 35 lakh ganja plants recovered from Jamalpur

From Our Correspondent

JAMALPUR, Oct 30: Jamalpur district police administration and district Drug Control Department recently recovered 881kg of ganja (hashish) plants worth Taka 35 lakh 32 thousand, from different parts of the district.

Drug Control Department recovered two kg of dry ganja and arrested one person from the town recently.

When contacted, an assistant director of the district Drug Control Department told this correspondent that the department conducted a special drive from September 13 to October 5 to recover illegal ganja trees.

Thana wise recovery of ganja trees are nine ganja trees recovered from village Birloter under Madarganj thana, 31 ganja trees recovered from Char Kapashya village under Melandah thana and one was arrested named Shukur Mia, 49 ganja trees recovered from village Chunaipatal in Sarisha Bari thana.

Thirteen separate cases were registered against 16 persons with respective police stations under Drug Control Special Act of 1983.

Another special drive was ordered by SP Jamalpur from August 21 to September 2 in all the seven thanas. Huge quantities of ganja trees were recovered from different remote areas of the district.

Thana wise ganja trees recovered are: 20 ganja trees in Jamalpur sadar thana, 45 ganja trees recovered from village Fulkucha in Melandah thana, 24 ganja trees recovered from village Chunaipatal in Sarishabari thana, 14 ganja trees recovered from village Shulirama thana, 92 ganja trees recovered from village Smuslimabad, Qaliakandi Teghuria, Gataria and Adarvita in Madarganj thana.

In this regard a case was filed with the Jamalpur thana. Two cases with Melandah, five cases with Madarganj another five cases with Dewanganj thana under Drug Control Special Act of 1983.

Another report adds: The district unit of Awami League organised a jute cultivators rally at Islampur Janata ground here recently. Awami League General Secretary Zillur Rahman and Abdur Razzak MP were also present as chief and special guests on the occasion.

District Awami League President, Advocate Motiur Rahman presided over the meeting while among others who addressed the meeting were Rashed Mosharrar, MP, Matiya Chowdhury, MP, Abul Kalam Azad, MP, Mohammad Nasim, MP, Rezaul Karim Hera, Advocate Ismat Pasha and others.

The speakers of the meeting demanded Taka 500 per maund of jute.

Rich tributes paid to S M Ali

From Our Correspondents

MOULVI BAZAR, Oct 30: Journalist Community of Moulvibazar has demanded for establishing a museum in the name of late internationally reputed journalist and founder Editor of The Daily Star, S M Ali.

They suggested that the proposed 'S M Ali Memorial Museum' should be set up at Old Hospital Road of his home district, Moulvibazar town.

This demand was made at meeting to condole the death of S M Ali, the founder Editor of The Daily Star.

The condolence meeting was presided over by Moulvibazar Press Club President and local reporter of BTV Shafiqul Wahed.

It was addressed among other by Professor Rajat Kanti Goswami, Correspondent of The Daily Star, Azizul Haque Iqbal of The Bangladesh Times, Abul Kalam Zila of The Daily Khabar, Nurul Islam Sheful of UNB, Mahfuzur Rahman, district convener of the Sammilita Sangskritik Jote and Mustak Ahmed Apu of local Gunijaan Sambardhana Parishad.

The speakers discussed the contributions of late S M Ali alias Khasru as journalist.

One minute silence was observed at the meeting in honour of the late journalist.

Kurigram
Our Kurigram Correspondent reports: The members of Kurigram Press Club condoled the death of S M Ali, founder Editor of The Daily Star, at a special general meeting held at

the local Public Club premises with Tofail Hossain President of the club in the chair.

Speakers in the meeting expressed deep shock at the sad demise of the renowned journalist S M Ali. They discussed his contributions in the field of journalism for a long time.

Those who participated in the discussion were Muhammad Sahabuddin, Secretary, Kurigram Press Club and Majbar Rahman, Kurigram correspondent of BTV and

Mymensingh Press Club on October 24 paid glowing tributes to late S M Ali, a doyen of journalism in South and South East Asia for his outstanding contributions to journalism.

The meeting jointly organised by the Mymensingh Union of Journalist (MUJ), Mymensingh Press Club and Sangbadik Samity. Was presided over by MUJ President Kazi Yasir.

The speakers recalled his contributions for the formation of the first journalist Wage Board in the sixties and his role for the Language Movement. The speakers pointed out that S M Ali believed in the freedom of press.

One minute's silence was observed and a munajat was offered for eternal peace of the departed soul.

Madaripur
Our Madaripur Correspondent says: Madaripur district unit of Jatya Sangbadik Sangstha (JSS) on Monday held a meeting to condole the death of S M Ali, Editor of The Daily Star.

The meeting was presided over by M Balal Khan. It was addressed by Salim Farazi, Forkan Ahmed, Subal Biswas, Irad Hasan and Jahangir Alam. The speaker's recalled the contributions of S M Ali.

Brahmanbaria
Our Brahmanbaria Correspondent says: President and Secretary of B Baria Press Club, Mohd Musa and Sadequr

Rahman and President and Secretary of Akhaura thana Press Club of the district, Babu K R Gose and Yousuf Sarwar in separate messages expressed deep regrets at the sudden death of S M Ali, Founder Editor of The Daily Star and conveyed profound sympathy to the members of bereaved family.

Sakhira
Our Sakhira Correspondent reports: A condolence meeting under the auspices of Sakhira Press Club was held at the club building in memory of late S M Ali Founder Editor of The Daily Star.

Presided over by Abdul Muttalib, President, Sakhira Press Club, the meeting addressed among others by Prof Abu Ahmed, Vice President Sakhira Press Club, Sardar Anisur Rahman, Assistant Editor Daily Kafela, Golam Rahman Correspondent, Dainik Anirban, Kazi Rejaul Hasan Dulal, Correspondent Dainik Janakantha, Mosharrar Hossain, Correspondent Dainik Al-Ameen and Prof. Pabitra Mohon Das, Dainik Aker Kagaj.

Gazipur
Our Gazipur Correspondent says: A meeting and a milad mahfil was held at the Gazipur Press Club premises on Sunday to condole the death of S M Ali.

The speakers said, S M Ali the Founder Editor of The Daily Star was one of the personality in the field of journalism.

The speakers said, S M Ali brought name and fame for the country and prayed for the salvation of the departed soul.



Dainik Janata.

H B Khan, and Rabindra Nath Ray, President and Secretary respectively of the Bangladesh Sangbadik Samity, Kurigram zila unit expressed their deep shock at the sudden death of reputed journalist S M Ali.

Mymensingh
Our Mymensingh Correspondent says: The local journalists at a condolence meeting held at

Massive scheme to cultivate rabi crops

From Our Correspondent

MAULVI BAZAR, Oct 30: A massive scheme to bring about 43,050 hectares of land under different rabi-crops cultivation has been undertaken in six thanas of Maulvibazar district.

According to district Agriculture Extension Department (AED), the production target has been fixed at about two lakh tons.

Of the total land, about 24,000 hectares have been brought under High Yielding Variety (HYV) of boro paddy, 11,000 hectares under local variety of boro paddy, 400 hectares under wheat, 50 hectares under maize, 2900 hectares under potato, 1200 hectares under sweet potato and 3500 hectares under vegetables.

Target of production includes 84900 tons of different varieties of boro paddy, 760 tons of wheat, 100 tons of maize, 31,900 tons of potato, 18000 tons of sweet potato and 66,500 tons of vegetables.

The district AED has arranged 335 demonstration plots to educate farmers scientific methods of cultivation and will distribute necessary seeds, fertilizers and other inputs at free of cost for these demonstration plots for successful implementation of the programme.

Of these demonstration plots, 53 will be set up at sadar thana, 66 at Sreemongal thana, 52 at Rajnagar thana, 49 at Kamalgonj thana, 66 at Kulaura thana and 49 at Baralokha thana, the AED source said.

The source added that they will organise training programmes for the farmers to make the scheme a success.

One person was sentenced to suffer 10 years rigorous imprisonment on charge of killing his wife.

District and sessions judge of Moulvibazar Mahmud Hossain Siddiquee delivered the judgement recently.

The court also fined him Taka six thousand, in default to suffer RI for one year more.

The prosecution story in brief is that, accused Chunu Miah of village Nurpur under Rajnagar thana hit his wife Begum Bibi with a sharp dao the victim died on the spot.

A murder case was filed. Police after investigation submitted charge-sheet against Chunu Miah.

The judge found the accused guilty and sentenced him to suffer the said punishment.

Public prosecutor, Abdul Khalique appeared on behalf of the state while Advocate Abdul Mukit Chowdhury defended the accused.

Phone subscribers suffer for malpractices

From Our Correspondent

DINAJPUR, Oct 30: The telephone subscribers of the district of Dinajpur have been suffering untold sufferings due to the malpractice of the local staff of the telephone department, it is alleged by the local telephone subscribers.

It is alleged that some of the telephone operators help a class of dishonest subscribers who get their internal and overseas phone connection in exchange of bribes.

The general subscribers hardly get any connections after several reminders. The phone operators give lame excuses for the non-availability of the connections, it is informed.

The subscribers, in case of emergency, normally do not get any connections. One subscriber who pays regular bribe to a particular operators said, because he pays monthly payments to the operators he is given connections as early as possible. These fortunate subscribers also pay a nominal monthly bill.

Due to monthly payments phone lines are frequently kept engaged for long time. The monthly payments also help them keep their telephone lines in perfect order.

The general subscribers complain that their sets remain dead for maximum hours every day.



MYMENSINGH: The members of local union of journalists, press club and sangbadik samity organised a meeting to condole the death of S M Ali, the Founder Editor of The Daily Star at Press Club on October 24. — Star photo