

District roundup

BARISAL

New school buildings to be constructed

Nov 12: Facilities Department of the Ministry of Education will implement 28 projects at a cost of Taka 21.89 lakh in four districts under Barisal Education Zone (BEZ) during the current fiscal year, reports BSS.

The districts are: Barisal, Jhalakati, Bhola and Pirojpur.

According to an official source, school building will be constructed under non-government secondary school development programme.

Ten schools will be constructed in Barisal district, four in Jhalakati district, seven each in Pirojpur and Bhola districts, the source said.

SHERPUR

Diarrhoea kills 7 in 48-hour

Nov 12: Diarrhoea claimed seven lives including two children and attacked 200 other people in two thanas of the district in the last 48 hours ending Sunday, unofficial sources said, reports UNB.

The dead were identified as Abdul Jabbar (50), Abul (45), Afaz (40), two children of village Jangledd in Sadar thana. Munsif (45) and another unidentified man died in Nakla thana.

Official sources, however, confirmed only two deaths in Sadar thana. They said 50 people were attacked by the disease. The worst affected thanas are Sadar and Nakla.

According to Civil Surgeon office at least 80 medical teams have been working in the affected areas, but local people alleged that treatment of the patients is being hampered due to paucity of oral saline packets and other necessary medicines.

Diarrhoea broke out in the district in the last week.

GAZIPUR

Qulkhwani of former minister held

Nov 12: The qulkhwan of former minister Alhaj Fakir Abdul Mannan was held at his village Ghagutia under Kapasia thana of Gazipur district here Friday, reports BSS.

Jute Minister and the eldest son of deceased A S M Hannan Shah and a several thousand local people attended the qulkhwani.

They offered *fateha* and *munajat* and prayed for the peace of the departed soul.

Fakir Abdul Mannan died on October 31.

LALMONIRHAT

One hacked to death

Nov 12: A young housewife was hacked to death by her husband following a family feud at village Kulaghat in Sadar thana on Thursday, police and villagers said, reports UNB.

The victim, identified as Kulsom Begum (30), was the second wife of Abul Kashem of the same village. Kashem went into hiding immediately after the incident.

According to the police, Kashem married Kulsom without the permission of his first wife Jarina Begum recently and gave away all his land property to Kulsom through deeds.

At this, Jarina Begum filed a case at the Sadar court against her husband for her maintenance. Finding no other way out Kashem in a bid to settle the case amicably asked Kulsom to part with half of the property in favour of Jarina which she refused to do so.

As a result, Kashem reportedly lost his temper, tied Kulsom with rope and hacked her to death. A case has been filed with the police.

FENI

Two meet unnatural deaths

Nov 12: Two people died unnatural in the sadar thana during the last 24 hours, police said, reports UNB.

An unidentified man, aged about 50, was found dead in a pond at Mohammad Ali Bazar Monday afternoon. The body was sent to morgue and a case was filed with the local thana.

Another man, an employee of Pali Bidyut Samity, was crushed under the wheels as he got down from a running bus at Mahipal terminal on Chittagong-Dhaka highway on Sunday. Abdul Latif (40) boarded the bus to bid farewell to his relatives.

Meanwhile, police seized Indian saris and clothes worth Taka five lakh from a truck at Mahipal bus terminal Sunday night.

Three passengers of the truck and its driver managed to flee. A case has been filed in this connection.

COMILLA

Food for education programme inaugurated

Nov 12: The Food for Education Programme at East Joor Karan union of Sadar thana has been inaugurated here at Lalbagh Government Primary School premises, says UNB.

Begum Rabeya Chowdhury MP inaugurated the programme on Wednesday which was attended by a cross-section of local people. The programme was introduced in six government and one non-government primary schools of the union.

In her inaugural speech Rabeya Chowdhury said the overall development of the country is not possible without educating the common people. She called upon the poor people to take the opportunity to educate their children under the food for education programme.

She also said the present government has given more emphasis on primary education which is essential for national development.

Under the programme each poor student's family will get 15 kgs of wheat.

The programme will cover the entire thana phase by phase on the basis of progress in Joor Karan union, she added.

KHULNA

One killed in explosion while making bomb

Nov 12: A young man was killed in explosion of a bomb he was believed making at his village home in Doulaturp thana on Sunday, reports UNB.

Police said Kasor (30) was seriously injured when a bomb exploded in his hand at Deyana village in the afternoon.

He was rushed to a clinic at Khalishpur with multiple injuries where attending doctors declared him dead. His body was brought back home by his relatives but police Monday recovered it and sent it to the morgue of Sadar Hospital.

A case was filed with the Daulaturp thana.

NETRAKONA

Diarrhoea kills 40

Nov 12: About 40 persons died of diarrhoea in different thanas of the district during the last few days, reports BSS.

According reports, over five hundred others were attacked by the disease during the last one month.

The official sources however confirmed 12 deaths, and 100 others were attacked by the disease in the ten thanas under the district, during the period.

THAKURGAON

Execution of 24 uplift schemes undertaken

Nov 12: The government has sanctioned 842 metric tons of wheat for execution of 24 development schemes under Food for Work Programme in the current dry season in five thanas and two *pourasabhas* of Thakurgaon district, according to an official handout Monday, says BSS.

The work of the schemes includes construction and reconstruction of rural roads and embankments and Earthwork.

The schemes are expected to be completed by April next.

Meanwhile 4,548 poor children out of 9,225 children of 44 primary schools under five unions in five thanas of Panchagarh district have been brought under food for education programme.

Under the programme, each child attending the classes over 84 per cent days in being provided with 15 kilogrammes of wheat per month.

PABNA

5 JCD workers arrested on charge of terrorism

Nov 12: Police in a pre-dawn swoop recently arrested five Jatiyatabadi Juba Dal leaders from Shaigaria area in the town on charge of terrorism, says UNB.

They are Shaigaria ward Juba Dal President Gulzar Hossain (32), General Secretary Faruq Hossain (30) and workers Anwar Hossain Anis (25), Mosharruf Hossain (27) and Sweet (24).

Police raided their houses at 4:40 am and picked up the five activists of JJD, the youth front of ruling BNP.

They were said to have been wanted in several cases of terrorist activity.



SYLHET: A M A Muhit, presidium member of Gano Forum and former secretary speaking at a meeting of the elite at Shaheed Soleman Hall here recently. — Star photo

Tk 1.35 cr smuggled goods seized from Sylhet region

From Our Correspondent

SYLHET, Nov 12: Smuggled goods worth about Taka one crore 34 lakh 54 thousand and 393 were seized by the *jawans* of BDR from different border areas of the four districts of greater Sylhet region during the last ten months.

A total of 120 persons was also arrested on charge of smuggling, during the period.

An official source informed this correspondent that 264 smuggling cases were also registered with the concerned police stations.

The operations were carried out during the period from January 1 to October 31, this year.

The seized goods include, sa-ree, lungi, bidi, safety matches, dal, pepper, skin, electronic spares, ganja, sugar and cosmetics. The seized goods were handed over to the Customs Department.

BB Governor meets chamber members
Another report says: The Governor of the Bangladesh

Bank, Khorsheed Alam met the members of the Sylhet Chamber of Commerce and Industries (SCCI) at the local Chamber building on Thursday last.

M A Salam Chowdhury, President, of the SCCI presided over the meeting while it was also addressed among others by the members of the chamber. M A Mumin, M A Raziq Chowdhury, Manjur Ahmed, Junnun Mahmud Khan, Abdul Hannan Chowdhury, Sekil Chowdhury and Shah Alam.

General Manager Bangladesh Bank, Sylhet, M A Mannan and Mostafa Kamal Chowdhury of Sonali Bank, also spoke of the occasion.

The Governor in his speech pointed out the present economic condition of the country and called upon all to work unitedly with a view to achieving the goal of self-reliance of the country and for the overall development of the country. He assured all help in solving the problems faced by the chamber

members.

Meanwhile, the Balaganj thana unit of the Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Muktojoddah Dal was formed at a meeting of the unit held recently.

The 21-member committee was formed with Abdun Noor, Abdul Khaleque and Mohamad Rafiq Uddin as President, General Secretary and Organising Secretary respectively.

Md Nurul Haque, Member-Secretary of the district Convening Committee was present as chief guest at the General Meeting.

Nurses executives
The Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hostel unit of the Bangladesh Student Nurses' Union was formed at a meeting of the organisation held recently.

The 35-member new committee was formed with Tanjina Khanam and Mohammad Abdul Matin as President and General Secretary respectively.

Attack on principal's house condemned

From Our Correspondent
MOULVI BAZAR, Nov 12: District leaders of ten leftist political party in a joint statement protested and condemned the attack in the house of the principal, Moulvibazar Government College recently.

They demanded immediate arrest of the miscreants for exemplary punishment. The leaders expressed their solidarity with the programme taken by the teachers of the college. They also expressed their disappointment over the silent role of the police.

It may be mentioned here that, some alleged criminals, who had been taking shelter at college hostel attacked the house of the principal of Moulvibazar Government College last month. After the incident, teachers of the college boycotted classes to protest the attack.

Diarrhoea claims 7, attacks 1528

SIRAJGANJ, Nov 12: Diarrhoea claimed seven lives and attacked 1528 people in five thanas of the district in the last 48 hours, unofficial sources said, reports UNB.

The dead were identified as Satuni Bewa (75) of Rajatnagar, Ambia Khatun (3) of Bohuli in sadar thana, Sohel (6) of Rajnatpuri in Kazipur thana, Alomati (11) of Jagannathpur and Sirajul Islam (8) of Bethua in Royganj thana, Hosne Ara (8) of Shahjahanpur in Ullahpara and Hamida Khatun (50) of Chala in Kamarkand thana.

3 killed in road mishap

MYMENSINGH, Nov 12: Three people were killed and 15 others injured — seven seriously — when a bus turned turtle while trying to save a goat at Char Hossainpur Village in Iswarganj thana today, reports UNB.

The dead were identified as Monayem, 27, Nazimuddin, 40, and Muslem, 35.

Police said the Dhaka-bound bus from Kishoreganj turned turtle when it tried to give side to a goat at 11 am.

Our staff correspondent from Chittagong adds: One person was killed at the Chittagong port this afternoon when the victim was trapped under a container, port police said.

Arifur Rahman, 33, identified as a helper of a truck No. Dhaka Ta-1398 met with the tragic end during loading of a container.

Notes From Sirajganj

From Our Correspondent
SIRAJGANJ, Nov 12: The greatest Hindu festival, Durga Puja concluded in the district with Bisharjan on October 25.

A total of 147 idols was erected in nine thana areas of the district.

The ceremony was held peacefully. Col (Retd) Akbar Hossain Bir Pratik visited some puja pandals of Sirajganj town and Belkuchi on October 23 last.

Nazrul Academy body formed
Election of Sirajganj Nazrul Academy was held recently with Shamsul Bari in the chair.

A 21-member committee was formed with Advocate Rafiq-ul-Aziz as President and Aminul Islam as General Secretary for 1993-95 period.

JCD protests
Chittagong killing Sirajganj district Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) brought out a procession protesting the killing three persons at Chittagong Medical College.

Earlier, a protest meeting was held at the government college premises demanding immediate arrest and punishment to the killers.

'Focus on uplift programmes'
The Deputy Chief Information Officer of Rajshahi Divisional Information Directorate, Khorsheed Alam Khan in a meeting with local journalists at the Zilla Press Club emphasised on the development activities.

Among others, Aminul Islam Chowdhury, Rafiqul Alam Khan, Abdul Quddus, Ashit Chowdhury and Sunil Kumar Ghosh spoke on the occasion. Later, he visited the office of local weekly Samajug.

Convening body of JP formed
The 57-member convening committee of Jatiya Party (Nationalist) was formed here recently. The Rajshahi Divisional Co-ordinator and former MP Iqbal Hasan Mahmood was elected the convenor of Sirajganj district JP(N).

According to the sources, central General Secretary Prof M A Matin has approved the committee.

Most children suffering from malnutrition

BARGUNA, Nov 12: About 80,000 children in five thanas of the district are suffering from malnutrition and other diseases, according to a survey conducted by a non-government organisation, reports UNB.

Acute food shortage has been prevailing throughout the district for the last few years. As a result, children and mothers of poverty stricken families are falling prey to various diseases including malnutrition causing premature deaths.

These children are also suffering from diarrhoea, dysentery, pneumonia, malaria, hooping cough, night blindness and skin diseases, the report said.

According to a child specialist, a six-month old child requires balanced diet enriched with calcium, iron, vitamins

and folic acid. But poor parents are unable to supply their children with the balanced diet.

The ill-fated children have to depend on breast feeding which is quite insufficient to grow up ones. Many ill-fed and clad mothers are unfit for breast feeding.

Besides, the poverty-stricken mothers have to depend on insufficient food and even remain unfed very often due to shortage of food.

The male members are found callous and indifferent to the basic needs of the child-bearing women, the report revealed. Mentionable that due to natural calamities like successive floods, drought, pest and rat attacks for the last five years, the peasants of the district have become poor and are passing their days in great hardships.



GAZIPUR: Local police arrested two dacoits with a truck loaded with soyabean oil recently. — Star photo

CPEP in remote char areas facing serious setback

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, Nov 12: The Compulsory Primary Education Programme (CPEP) in remote char areas of six unions under Sundargarj thana is being seriously hampered due to alleged corruption, shortage of teachers, equipment and student and lack of communications.

According to a survey conducted recently, only two teachers are working in two primary schools, Mohishbandi and Belka where about 200 children have been attending classes. The schools face high rate of drop outs every year due to shortage of adequate teachers.

Child education is suffering setback in many primary schools like Haripur, Kapasia, Chandipur, Tarapur, Belka and Dahabandh unions for want of sufficient teaching staff.

Besides, shortage of space, furniture and lack of other facilities have added to the frustration among the local people over the education of children. Concerned education officer does not visit these schools owing to poor communication.

Gambling unabated
Gambling has been continuing in different areas of the district. With the knowledge of local police administration the gamblers are carrying on their evil practice for a long time. Gamblers erected tents at remote hats and bazars at almost all thanas of the district.

Gambling has now become a business profession. Despite frequent attempts by the police administration to prevent such practice, gambling could not be stopped.

Workers' meet
A workers meeting of Gano Forum, Gaibandha unit was

held at local public library recently which was presided over by Mahabub Elahi Ranju. Pan-ka Bhattacharjee, presidium member, was present as chief guest. Besides, Motur Rahman, Dr Abdul Hakim, Belal Hossain Yousuf and Shahnewas Tuku also addressed the meeting.

The speakers termed terrorism as the main problem for the present time.

Huge number of hashish plants seized
Gaibandha police in a special drive recovered a huge amount of hashish worth about Taka two lakh from remote char land of Fulchari thana.

On getting secret information, a police contingent in a drive raided the house of one Mofizul Hoque of village Dacatia under Fulchari thana and recovered 75 large-size hashish plants. A sum worth about Taka two lakh could be produced, from the recovered plants, said one source. None was arrested. A case was registered with Gaibandha Thana.

Contraband seized
Department of Customs, Excise and VAT, Gaibandha in a drive recovered huge Indian contraband items from two Dhaka-bound night coaches at Gobindganj.

A contingent of Excise Department challenged a night coach, Dhaka Metro Cha-6799 and recovered 120 pieces of Indian saris.

In another drive, the team recovered 563 pieces of Indian saris, 96 pieces of cloth, six tins of pesticide, six packets of Boroline and 50 bottles of Phenisdyte syrup from a night coach heading for Dhaka, Dhaka Metro Cha-5853. The drive was conducted by Ruhul Amin, Supt of the department.

Workers' meet
A workers meeting of Gano Forum, Gaibandha unit was

held at local public library recently which was presided over by Mahabub Elahi Ranju. Pan-ka Bhattacharjee, presidium member, was present as chief guest. Besides, Motur Rahman, Dr Abdul Hakim, Belal Hossain Yousuf and Shahnewas Tuku also addressed the meeting.

The speakers termed terrorism as the main problem for the present time.

Huge number of hashish plants seized
Gaibandha police in a special drive recovered a huge amount of hashish worth about Taka two lakh from remote char land of Fulchari thana.

On getting secret information, a police contingent in a drive raided the house of one Mofizul Hoque of village Dacatia under Fulchari thana and recovered 75 large-size hashish plants. A sum worth about Taka two lakh could be produced, from the recovered plants, said one source. None was arrested. A case was registered with Gaibandha Thana.

Contraband seized
Department of Customs, Excise and VAT, Gaibandha in a drive recovered huge Indian contraband items from two Dhaka-bound night coaches at Gobindganj.

A contingent of Excise Department challenged a night coach, Dhaka Metro Cha-6799 and recovered 120 pieces of Indian saris.

In another drive, the team recovered 563 pieces of Indian saris, 96 pieces of cloth, six tins of pesticide, six packets of Boroline and 50 bottles of Phenisdyte syrup from a night coach heading for Dhaka, Dhaka Metro Cha-5853. The drive was conducted by Ruhul Amin, Supt of the department.

Govt trying to ensure five basic needs of people

TANGAIL, Nov 12: Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda said that the brave sepyajana had installed the declarer of Independence War, Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman, to power on November 7, 1975 by putting up united resistance against those who wanted to frustrate the independence and sovereignty of Bangladesh, reports BSS.

The Information Minister was addressing a public meeting at the playground of Bindubashini High School on Sunday to observe the National Revolution and Solidarity Day.

Organised by Tangail city BNP the meeting was addressed among others by State Minister for Industries Lutfar Rahman Khan, Khandoker Abu Taher, MP, Advocate Khondoker Badruddin, Anowara Habib Khan, Relief Affairs Secretary of BNP N I Khan, DUCSU General Secretary Khairol Kabir Khokon, Vice President of Jobodal, Shyamol Ghose, Vice President of Chhatra Dal Moniruzzaman Bulbul, Convenor of Tangail District JASAS Golam Ambia and Convenor of Sramik Dal Abdul Quddus.

Paying deep respect to the Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman Barrister Nazmul Huda said, the great leader had preserved the values of Liberation War by introducing multi-party democracy, providing absolute freedom to newspapers, establishing people's rule, upholding basic human rights, ensuring economic prosperity of the country and safeguarding the independence and sovereignty of the nation.

He said the present democratic government under the leadership of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia had been marching forward in its bid to implement successfully the development programmes initiated by the late President Zia to make the country self-reliant. He said the government had been making efforts to materialise the revolutionary steps to ensure five basic needs of the people like food, clothings, shelter, education and medicine.

The Information Minister criticised the government which was in power after the independence of the country for its misrule and said it did not believe in the people's power since it had never believed in the spirit of liberation war.

Barrister Nazmul Huda said the people brought them to power once only. He said at that time BNP was not even born and pointed out that after its birth the people had installed the BNP to power three times because it had always believed in the politics of land and people.

He said vested quarters had been making propaganda against the government and asserted that the BNP which made relentless movements under the leadership of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia for nine years against autocracy was not afraid of movements. BNP was on the streets along with the people and was still with them, he added.

Referring to the steps taken by the government to fulfil the election pledge to build a prosperous country, the Information Minister said never before any political party while in power

had taken such a huge programme for the welfare of the people. He said BNP had come to power for five years with the mandate of the people to materialise its election manifesto and not to implement programmes of other political parties.

Barrister Nazmul Huda said the main objective of the present government was to implement the important economic programmes and if the present government could work for five years for the welfare of the people, the people would vote for the BNP to power for the fourth time.

He said the vested quarters had been creating obstacles one the way of implementing development programmes of the government because it was aware of this. He urged the people to remain alert. He said BNP believed in the people's politics and the exponent of Bangladeshi nationalism Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman also believed that people were the source of all power. The government of Begum Khaleda Zia also believed in this policy, he added.

The Information Minister dismissed the demand for mid-term elections and said the government had come to power with the support of the people. He explained that mid-term elections were held only when doubts arose about the people's support. He urged the people to get united to achieve prosperity of the nation by successful implementation of the programmes of the government and preservation of independence and sovereignty of the country being imbued with the spirit of November 7.



CHANDPUR: The building of Raymunessa Women's College at Matlab thana is under construction. — Star photo