#### BAGERHAT

## Tk 15 crore uplift plan

Nov 20 : Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman said here Thursday the government has taken up Taka 15 crore programme for the all-round development of Bagerhat town, reports BSS.

He was speaking at several public meetings while visiting the Bagerhat-Chitalmari road under construction.

The foreign minister said development of the districts was hampered in the past due to political reasons. But the present government has adopted programmes for the balanced development of different regions of the country.

He said food production has now increased at the rate beyond expectation and the country was not in the process of exporting foodgrains.

#### NATORE

#### Books worth Tk 95,225 given to mosques, institutions

Nov 20: Natore Islamic Foundation distributed books worth Taka 95,225 among 27 libraries of different mosques, clubs and educational institutions last week, reports UNB.

The books were handed over at a function held at the auditorium of the foundation.

Assistant Director of the foundation Sultan Ahmed was present as chief guest while Mawlana Muhammad Yaqub Ali presided.

Twelve mosques received books worth Tk 50,280, 10 clubs got books worth Tk 15,390 and five educational institutions the rest books worth Tk 29,555.

#### TANGAIL

#### College gets financial aid

Nov 20: Government has sanctioned Taka fifty lakh for the development of Kumudini Government College this financial year, says BSS.

Official sources said that the

reconstruction of second floor of the existing college hostel build ing will be done by Taka forty lakh and the rest will be used to erect the boundary wall.

Work on one hundred bed hostel building and construction of first floor of an academic building are progressing fast with another Taka eightyseven lakh grant.

With the construction and reconstruction of hostels and academic building the long felt accommodation facilities will be

#### CHITTAGONG

## Two officers get prizes for performance

Nov 20: Two officers of Chit tagong city corporation have been awarded prizes in recognition of their commendable services to the corporation, reports

Held at the corporation audi torium, the function was attended by Mayor of Chittagong City Mir Mohammad Nastrud din, while Chief Executive Officer of the corporation Moham mad Abu Hafiz presided over it.

Speaking on the occasion. city mayor said the award had been introduced to encourage the officers and employees of the corporation for better works and honesty.

The two officers who have been awarded prizes are Anil Bashak and engineer Rezaul

#### NOAKHALI

## Move to improve law, order situation

Nov 20: Steps are underway to improve the deteriorating law and order situation in the district, reports UNB.

At a law and order subcommittee meeting it was noted with concern that crimes have increased considerably in the last two months.

The meeting was held at the conference room of the Deputy Commissioner recently. Presided over by DC Mashiur Rahman, it reviewed the overall law and order situation in the

district. A total of 96 crimes, including two murder cases took place during the month of September. The meeting also expressed concern over the traffic jam at Chowmuhani commercial centre and over loading of buses and trucks in various routes casing frequent accidents and road

blockade. The meeting also decided to set up mobile courts in all the thanas to prevent use of current nets, sale of adulterated foods. killing of fish fry and check the fitness of the vehicles,

#### **JAMALPUR**

#### Erosion hit victims get Tk 15 lakh, CI sheets

Nov 20: Government sanctioned Taka 15 lakh and 405 bundles of CI sheet for rehabilitation of the erosion affected victims of the rivers Jamuna and Brahmaputra in the district during the last rainy season, reports UNB.

Of the amount Taka 2.15 lakh has been sanctioned for sadar thana, Taka 1.90 lakh for Sharishabari, Melandah, Madarganj, Dewanganj and Bakhshigani thana each, Taka 1.95 lakh for Islampur, Taka 60,000 for Sharishabari pourashava and Taka 80,000 for Jamalpur pourashava.

Government also sanctioned 1,083 metric tons of wheat for the unemployed villagers under

Food for Works Programme. Under the programme construction of rural roads, reconstruction of mosques and temples, repairing of drains, canal digging and tree planting were done during the rainy sea-

The Deputy Commissioner told UNB that Food for Works programme for the winter season has already been started in the current month. About 2,086 metric tons of wheat have been sanctioned for the purpose.

#### KHULNA

## BIT starts M Sc course on 3 subjects

Nov 20: Bangladesh Institute of Technology (BIT) in Khulna will introduce M Sc course on three subjects from the current 1992-93 calender, officials said, says UNB.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia is expected to inaugurate the new course on December 29.

The departments are Civil, Mechanical and Electric and Electronics.

Register of the institute Abu Naser told UNB that a total of nine students, three each from the departments, will be enrolled in the current session.

Apart from the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), masters courses are also offered at the Bangladesh Institute of Technology (BIT) in Rajshahi.

#### COMILLA

#### Huge area. under rabi crop cultivation

Nov 20: About 1,76 lakh hectares of land in the district have been brought under intensive rabi crop cultivation plan during this season, says

Agriculture Extension Department sources said production target has been fixed at 7.32 lakh metric tons and all necessary measures have been taken to achieve the target.

According to the programme, 1.05 lakh hectares would be brought under Boro paddy cultivation, 20,000 hectares under wheat, 15,380 hectares under potato, 5,000 hectares under sweet potato, 7,100 hectares under different winter vegetables, 13,125 hectares under mustard seeds, 4000 under ground nut, 6,550 under pul-

Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation (BADC) supplied High Yielding Variety (HYV) seeds, fertilizers, pesticides and other necessary inputs among the farmers at fair prices to make the scheme a success.

At least 2,789 demonstration plots have been set up to acquaint the farmers with the modern methods of cultivation.

#### NARAIL

#### Lily output declines

Nov 20: Production of lily

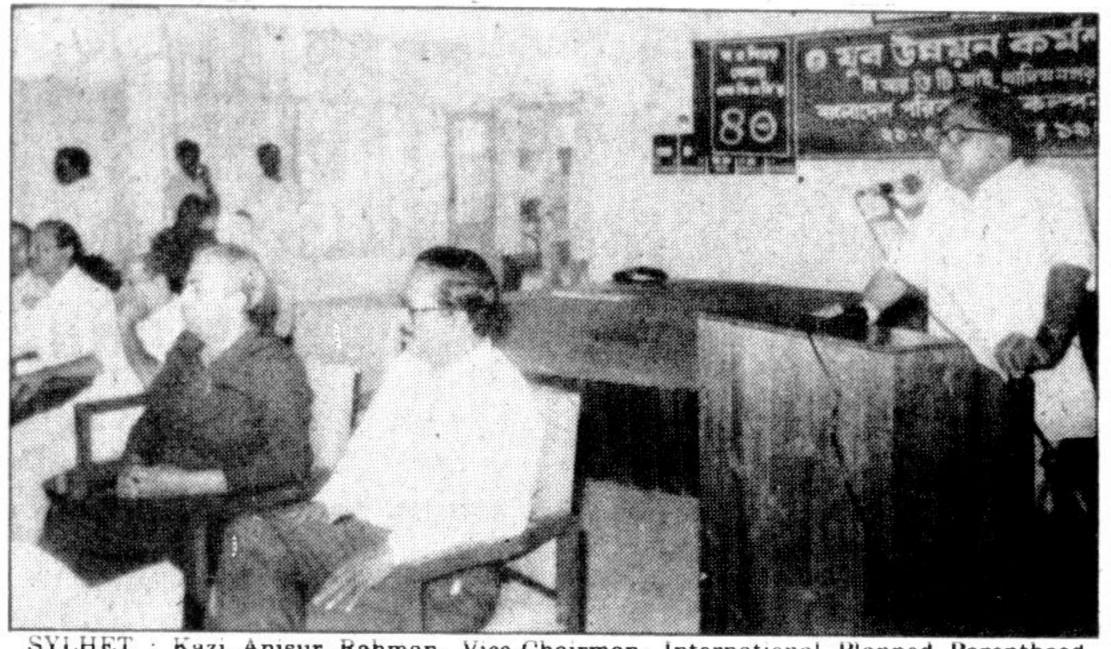
has declined in Narail, Jessore and Khulna districts due to lack of proper orientation, maintenance and plantation, says

According to reports, bills haors, ponds, tanks and marshy lands once rich in lily production are now wearing a deserted look.

Lily creeper, usually is used as vegetable in urban and rural areas. This was abundantly available in the rainy season. Moreover, in time of food crisis, it helped poors to save life as an alternative food item.

Above all, the food value of the plant is not less than any other common vegetables of the country, experts said. Proper care and planned production can raise the output.

The farmers have urged the authorities to take necessary steps for planned plantation of the lily in these districts.



SYLHET: Kazi Anisur Rahman, Vice-Chairman, International Planned Parenthood Federation, a non-government family planning body, speaking on the inaugural session of 2day-long workshop for the youth organisers from Rajshahi, Khulna and Barisal divisions held here recently. - Star photo

# Hill cutting continues, nature at stake

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Nov 20: Dethorities concerned, the cutting of hills here is going on unabatedly posing threat to the natural beauty and ecological balance of the Chittagong Port city, the gate-way of Bangladesh and Queen of the East.

According to sources of Chittagong Development Authority (CDA), during the past ten years the scourge caused the demolition of 190 acres of hilly lands. Experts say, with the demolition and razing of most of the hills Chittagong has been exposed to ecological and natural imbalance which could lead the city to disastrous eventuality in the coming years.

The first ban on indiscriminate hill-cutting was imposed in 1983. But as the demolition of hills continued in defiance of the ban, the authorities were forced to amend the Building Construction Act, 1990 empow-

ering the police for taking action spite ban imposed by the au- against it taking the offence as cognisable and non-bailable.

But the police action in this regard was hardly found effective to check the menace of the hill-cutting.

Considering the housing problem of the people, CDA relaxed the restriction imposing five conditions to seek permission for hill cutting.

Because of such flexibility in respect of hill cutting, a section of people, particularly mud and sand dealers and brokers took advantage of it in collusion with some top brass of administration and continued destroying the natural barriers, sources

Consequently, hundreds of hills were levelled during the past years due to loopholes in administrative measures taken earlier to check the scourge. sources added.

Owing to indiscriminate hill-

cutting, Chittagong Port city also faces a chronic water-logging in most of its parts as drains are silted by the sands and mud flowing from the hills.

Meanwhile, the government constituted a 10-member committee recently to review the case of permission for hill cutting on special grounds.

The committee headed by the Chairman of Chittagong Development Authority (CDA) included local 'MPs, other CDA board members and administrative personnel.

As a result, the permission for hill cutting will now be issued and approved by the Works Ministry subject to the recommendations of the com-

The CDA sources said, in a bid to check the indiscriminate and illegal hill cutting, measures were also underway to frame some fresh rules and regulations.

## No diarrhoea ward in Barisal divisional hospital yet

BARISAL, Nov 20: Sadar Hospital of Barisal is beset with manifold problems due to shortage of doctors, ambulance, technicians for pathology and necessary medicines, reports UNB.

Patients said, X-Ray machine of the hospital remain inoperative for days together

PATUAKHALI, Nov 20 : Shi-

pping Minister M K Anwar said

the government has taken

necessary steps to develop Pat-

uakhali Port into a modern river

He was addressing the offi-

cial workers, launch owners

and a cross section of people at

Patuakhali BIWTA terminal

Shipping Secretary Waltul Is-

lam, Chairman BIWTA, M G

Kibria and senior officials of

BIWTA were present on the oc-

At present Patuakhali river

port contains two pontoons, one

a hundred feet long and the

other, sixty feet long. The minis-

ter said that another hundred-

foot long pontoon will be estab-

lished at Patuakhali Port soon

to increase the passengers'

He advised the officials of

BIWTA to take necessary steps

for developing the river channel

of Dhaka-Patuakhali route in

are plying to and from Patu-

akhali Port ferrying thousands

that Patuakhali river port

Everyday about 60 launches

The minister was informed

Lohalia and other rivers

port, says BSS.

here Friday.

facilities.

of passengers.

Patuakhali Port will

be modernised soon

due to shortage of films hampering treatment and the only microscope is lying unrepaid Besides, ECG machine of the hospital remained out of order for a long time.

It is learnt that there are 14 posts for doctors of which three posts are still lying vacant. Seven posts of other staff

earned about Taka 42 lakh as

berthing charge, conservancy

charge and terminal ticket

charge during the last financial

year. He was also told that total

nancial year was only Taka two

The Shipping Minister ex-

M K A. war latter attended

pressed satisfaction at the

overall performance of the port.

the meeting of the district level

officials of Patuakhali at the lo-

cal circuit house. He also ad-

dressed a workers' meeting of

BNP and front organisations in

eleven-member executive com-

mittee of the Dashmina Gov-

ernment Primary Teachers As-

sociation was elected last week.

master of the Dashmina Gov-

ernment Primary School, and

Md Moslem Uddin, Assistant

Teacher of Bara Gopaldi Gov-

secretary of the association re-

FARIDPUR: A large number of people of Diara Narikelfori under Sadarpur joined BNP led by

AL leader A Hug Sarker at a meeting on Friday.

association in Dashmina.

Md Sohrab Hossain, Head-

A UNB report adds : An

Patuakhali

spectively

cost of the port in the same fi-

some cabins which are now being used as dormitories for the hospital employees, it is al-

ward of the hospital is yet to be set up. There is also no paying bed in the hospital. Hospital sources said, annual allocation of about Taka

crease the facilities of the About 200 patients are coming for treatment every day but they could not be

provided with necessary medicines, it is learnt. Water supply which is very much necessary for the hospital is quite irregular causing

the patients.

BSS reports say: The Barisal Sangskritic sangathan samanaya Parishad has taken up a programme to observe the 'Barisal mukti dibas' on December 8.

The programme of the day includes a colourful rally, discussion meeting in the Aswini Kumar Town Hall and cultural function.

Besides, the parishad will observe the national Victory Day from December 13 to December in the central shaheed minar premises.

ernment Primary School, were elected president and general A two-day workshop on The election was held at the annual general meeting of the

members of the hospital have also fallen vacant.

The 100-bed hospital has leged. The 20-bed diarrhoea

15 lakh is not sufficient to in-

untold suffering to the pa-Local people urged concerned authorities to take immediate steps to provide necessary medicare facilities to

"Social awareness" about compulsory primary education concluded at the primary training institute here recently.

### Diarrhoea claims 6 in Sirajganj

SIRAJGANJ, Nov 20: Diarrhoea claimed six lives, including three children, and affected 423 people in three thanas of the district during the last 24 hour, reports UNB.

The dead were identified as Kutub Pramanik, 70 of Jagannathpur, Rubel, 5 of Alokdia in Royganj, Aklia, 55 of Gopinathpur, Hazrat Ali, 3 of Kokhsabari in Shahjadpur, Abdul Bari, 6, and Raushan Ara, 18 of Gandhail in Kazipur thana.

Officials said outbreak of the disease killed 35 people, and affected 5,351 during the last two · Unofficial figures are 47

dead and 6,666 attacked during the period.

### School secures 1st position in essay competition

COMILLA, Nov 20: Comilla Zilla School has secured the first and second prizes in an essay competition organised by Bangladesh Postal Department on the occasion of World Postal Day, says UNB.

Mohammad Ashraful Alam Rashid and Amirul Islam of Comilla Zilla School were the recipients of the district-wise essay competition.

Post and Telecommunication Minister Tariqui Islam distributed prizes among the win ners at a simple function at the auditorium of GPO, Dhaka recently.

#### Seeks justice, cooperation

JAMALPUR, Nov 20: Shahed Ali, an old man, thought with a sense of indignation if the administration can ensure safety of life and property of the commonman, if it can, why he has lost all his belongings to local mastans?, writes UNB.

Shahed Ali - a father of eight and a poor farmer of the Muslimabad village in Sadar thana now passing his days either half-fed in his 95 decimal arable land in Sherpur district worth about Taka 10 lakh which has been occupied by the village mastans. The 45-year old illfated

man is now moving from door to-door in quest of justice. He still thinks that mastans can not overpower the administra-

"I bought the land in Charpakhimari union near the town some 20 years ago. But some people of the union led by Manju Mia, Nur Mohammad and Amir Ali occupied the land in 1976 when he was sick". the old man told the local newsmen

A number of sittings at the directive of UP chairman was held to settle the problem during the last 17 years. But land could not be recovered from the possession of mastans.

"I am a poor man, I can not afford the expenses required for the law suit. I seek justice I need cooperation of local people to recover my land," Shahed Ali said in support of his contention.

#### 5 killed in road mishaps

SHERPUR, Nov 20: Five people were killed and one other injured in three separate road accidents in the district in last 48 hours.

Khuda Mahmud 30, fell

down from the bus bound for Nalitabari and one old man Shamsuddin, 70, crushed under the wheels of a speeding motor cycle on Jamalpur to Sherpur road. Both the victims were taken to sadar hospital where doctor declared them Another incident on Friday

two labours were crushed under the wheels of a truck loaded with construction materials at Bajitkhila, three miles of the Sherpur town. The ill-fated labour Mushar-

raf. 25 and Abdul Matin 30 were warned at that time. Both, victims were killed on the spot

#### Workers of different political parties join BNP

SADARPUR (Faridpur), Nov 20: A large number of workers and leaders of different political parties including Awami League (AL) joined Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) at a public rally at Kachikata school premises. Diara Narikelbaria here on Friday, says BSS.

Prominent among those who joined BNP include, among others, former UP chairman Hamid Hawlader, Abdul Hug Sarker, Moslem Sarker, Kuddus Dewan, Rahim Gazi, Azid Mollah, Dudu Moliah and Zahir Uddin Khan. Presided over by former UP

chairman and local Awami League leader Khaleque Sarker, the rally was addressed by BNP leader Chowdhury Akmal Ibne Yusuf, Faridpur Pourashava Chairman Fazlul Kabir Chand JCD leader Rezaul Kabir Raza.

## Judges asked to ensure steady disposal of cases

PANCHAGARH, Nov 20: Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz has called upon the judges and the lawyers to uphold the traditional sanctity and image of the judiciary by ensuring steady disposal of

cases, reports UNB. Close cooperation, coordination between the Bar and Bench is a pre-condition to achieve this objective, said the Minister while inaugurating the newly built Panchagarh District and Sessions Judge Court building on Wednesday.

Presided over by Panchagarh District and Sessions Judge Mosharraf Hossain, the inaugural function was addressed, among others, by local MP Mazhar Hossain, District Bar Association President Kamizuddin Pradhan. Local PWD authority has

completed the construction work of the three storied judge court building at a cost of Taka 67 lakh in one year time, said a PID handout.

Mirza Hafiz said that there

freedom of judiciary at present in the country.

Twenty-five new district judge court buildings have so far been constructed, new bar association buildings and libraries have also been built and the libraries equipped with

adequate number of law bocoks. Bar Association have beer 1 instructed to set up legal a'id societies with government a ssistance to conduct the carses of the poor litigants free of

Referring to corruption as in the judiciary, the Minister said that any judge found guil ty of corruption and of any grew is irregularity would be sev erely dealt with. He cited exar nples of disciplinary actions taken against some judges rece ntly.

Earlier, the Law Mi nister formally unveiled the pla sque of the newly built judge court building and later I lanted saplings at the court pr emises.

He also handed ove r books donated by Bangladesh i Islamic Foundation to several local organisations at the Par ichagarh was complete rule of law and Circuit House.

## Disorganised Freedom Fighters to be unlitted

SHERPUR. Nov 20: LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Barrister Abdus Salam Talukder Friday said the present government is determined to uphold the spirit of Liberation War by uniting the disorganised freedom fighters, reports UNB.

He was inaugurating the first conference of Sherpur district Jatiyatabadi Muktijoddha Dal.

The function was addressed. among others, by Deputy Minister for Health and Family Welfare Sirajul Huq, Whip Abdul Karim, and local leaders Advocate Habibur Rahman and Nazrul Islam.

Barrister Talukder, also the BNP Secretary General, alleged that after the independence, the Awami League government had misguided the freedom fighters and also resorted to repression on them. "Their misrule resulted in dividing the valiant freedom fighters into various groups.

He urged the freedom fight ers to beware of "evil designs of the conspirators out to jeopar dise democracy in the country."

In this context, Barrister Talukder criticised the role of Nirmul Committee, specially its convenor Begum Jahanara Imam. "This lady remained silent

the spirit of Liberation War soon after the BNP government was formed following free and fair elections," he said. "This is a

during the past regime but she

started voicing her concern for

clear conspiracy against the BNP government."

BNP workers, if n eeded, will take the street again for the sake of democracy:

Later, a 31-me ir iber committee of Sherpur cli strict Jatiyatabadi Muktijodid ha Dal was formed with Khal ilur Rahman as president and Habibur Rahman the secretary

BSS adds : Diarrhoea claimed eight lives and affected hundred others in Sherpur Sadar thana during the last one Ilius Ali, Chrairman of Char

diarrhoea claim ed six lives and attacked man'y people in his union. Abdul J ubbar (50). Abul Miah (45), Rafaz (42), Hanif (35) and two children died. Two children of Pakturia union under Sadar thana a so died. Sherpur Sa dar thana health

Pakhimari union parishad said

and family pla nning officer said fourteen medical teams were working in the affected area He, however, confirmed death of two persons Another Biss report says District law and order commit

tee meeting was held at the

Sherpur Deputy Commis

sioner's conference room recently Ataur Rahmain, Deputy Commissioner. Sherpur, presided over the meeting. The meeting was attended a mong others by M A Wadud, Police Super, Mahiuddin Siddiky ADM Advocate Abdus Samad. President, Sherpur District Bar, Advocate Habibur Rahman, Abu Bakar, Commander Muktijod-

dha Sangsaci and Abu Bakar



MYMENSINGH: Prof Dr Shah Mohammad Farouk, VC, BAU handing over a photo album, portrait and condolence book to wife of late VC, Dr Mohammad Ashraf Ali Khan in presence of Dean of Faculties, senior professors and high officials of the university here recently. - Star photo

#### Tk 3.20 lakh smuggled goods seized one two-in-one and other valu-MAGURA, Nov 20 : Bangla-

the district during last three months, says UNB. BDR sources said of the total amount, goods worth about Taka 1.48 lakh were recovered in the month of October.

desh Rifles recovered smuggled

goods worth over Taka 3.20

lakh from different transport in

Contrabands worth over Taka 92.000 were recovered in September and goods worth Taka 79,000 were seized in the month of August.

The goods include bicycle,

phensidyl syrup, cloths, sarees wood pencils, shoes, ball pens. steel glasses, plates, blades, toothpaste, sugar, onion etc. The goods were deposited with the local customs godown

#### tered with the police. Valuables worth Tk 1.16 lakh looted

and several cases were regis-

A gang of dacoits swooped on a house at Narshinghati village in Sadar thana and looted cash and valuables worth about Taka 1.16 lakh last week.

Police said here Thursday the plunderers numbering about 15, stormed into the house of Alauddin and robbed cash Tk 10,000, 15 totals of gold ornaments, one VCP set,

ables on November 8. Meanwhile, police arrested

one Akamal Ali (24) of the vil-

lage for his alleged involvement

in the dacoity. A case was filed in this connection 3 killed in road mishap

Three people were killed and

eight others injured in two road

accidents in Magura, police said

vesterday. According to witnesses, Ajgar Ali, 40, was killed and five others were injured on November 13 when a loaded truck collided with a trolly near Kamarkhali Gorai bridge on Magura-Faridpur road. The in-

jured were sent to Sadar hospi-In another incident, Siddique (25) and Rakhoo Mondal (22) were killed and other three people injured on November 11 when a sand loaded truck suddenly plunged into a roadside ditch near Rautira on Magura-

Jhenidah road. Separate cases were lodged with the police.

Another report adds: Jatiya Sramik Party district unit was

formed Saturday in a meeting held at the office of Jatiya Party.