

## 10 activists of Jubadal hurt in factional clash

PABNA, Mar 8: Ten activists of the Jatiyatabadi Jubadal, the youth wing of the BNP, were injured in a factional clash at the New Market area in the town today, reports UNB.

Witnesses said the clash between the rivals erupted when the supporters of the local BNP leader Abdur Rouf allegedly attacked a procession of the rival Shajahan group near the market at about 8 pm.

Shajahan group brought out the procession demanding release of their four supporters arrested on various charges during the last week.

Seriously injured Afzal, 28, Abdus Samad, 24, and Moazzem, 25, were admitted to Sadar Hospital.

Meanwhile, Advocate Shajahan blamed the Abdur Rouf group for the attack. But Rouf denied the charge.

A case was filed with the local police.

## Mental patient commits suicide

BRAHMANBARIA, Mar 8: A man allegedly committed suicide by taking poison at Suhilpur village in sadar thana on February 26, reports UNB.

Mati Miah, 40, a mental patient, took poison and died at sadar hospital, hospital sources said.

Another report adds: Police arrested two notorious dacoits from Singha village in Nasirganj thana last week.

Acting on secret information, police rushed to the village and arrested Dulal Miah, 65 and Lokman Miah 30.

They were wanted in connection with several dacoity cases and other criminal cases, police said.

## Law, order situation deteriorates

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, Mar 8: Law and order situation has deteriorated causing concern to the peace loving people in Kishoreganj district headquarters town and its adjoining areas.

Local leaders and elite informed that highway robbery, dacoity, theft, murder, gambling, kidnapping, rape, cattle lifting, hijacking, pick-pocketing, smuggling, mugging etc have become rampant in the district.

The miscreants always move about with unauthorised arms and lethal weapons and engage in anti-social and criminal activities with impunity.

Besides, sale of drugs in also rampant in the town and in the thana areas giving rise to anti-social activities.

Local leaders and elite have urged the concerned authorities to check the activities of the anti-social elements and vested interests for maintaining peace in the society and to ensure security of life.

## Books, journals donated

From Our Correspondent

MYMENSINGH, Mar 8: Noted scientist and retired Professor of Bangladesh Agricultural University, Prof Dr Shamsul Huda Chowdhury formally donate his books and journals related to agricultural science and technology to the central library of the university.

Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr Shah Mohammad Faruq received the books and journals from Dr Shamsul Huda Chowdhury at his office chamber.

Prof Dr M Abdul Haque, Prof Dr M Arshad Ali, Abdul Gafur Dewan, BAU Librarian, Dewan Rashidul Hasan, Director (PRP) and other high officials were present on the occasion.

Donated books and journals would be helpful for academic, research, extension and training of the teachers, student and researchers of the university.

## Demonstration against FAP-20

TANGAIL, Mar 8: Several hundred people staged a demonstration against the FAP-20 at a village in Sadar thana here today as authorities started construction of a sluice gate, reports UNB.

Work on the FAP-20 project in Rasulpur village of Gaia union had started defying villagers' protest and some musclemen of contractors beat up the protesters on Saturday.

Tangail Village Development Parishad and Landless Family organised the demonstration also to protest this incident.

"We don't want FAP, we don't want sluice gate. We want flood water for our agriculture," chanted the demonstrators.



MANIKGANJ: Raymond Chan, Secretary of State for Asia and the Pacific, Government of Canada talking with the women at Katya of the district during his visit here on the importance of education on the occasion of the International Women's Day. — Photo by A K M Mohsin

## Criminal incidents exceed all previous records

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE, Mar 8: Incident of murder dacoity, hijacking and rape during the last two months exceeded all previous records following the deterioration of law and order situation in the district.

It is learnt that during the period, a total of nine murders, fifteen hijacking, twenty dacoity and three rapes were committed in different parts of the district.

In the month of February alone, three murders, ten dacoities, six hijackings and two rapes were committed. According to a detailed information, Sharsha thana police recovered a body identified as Raihan (30) from the river Ichhami on February 22. Dulal 28 was shot dead by a group of armed miscreants at Hushala-Bagehar near Jessore town on February 27 and Ferjo Begum (10) was killed by her step mother at Soto Khalshi of Jhikergucha thana on the same day.

The sources also informed that a total of seven dacoities were committed in different areas of local town during last month. The dates are February

3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 26.

Four hijackings of tenders by a group of armed youths were committed at different local offices keeping the entire office hostage at gun point. Besides a number of stray cases in and around the town were also reported.

It is alleged that police failed to arrest any of the FIR named persons. They picked up a journalist from his house at night on February 17 and released him after detaining at Kotwali thanas till next morning.

Police super, Jessore could not give satisfactory reply when asked about the cause of the arrest by local pressmen.

In protest against the police action, Jessore union of Journalists condemned it bitterly and warned the authority of dire consequences in case of recurrence in an emergency meeting held later.

Another reports says: Nine people were killed and one thousand two hundred others were attacked with diarrhoea during the last two months following its out break in epidemic term throughout the district.

According to a source, in sadar thana, its attack was quite violent. Five people were killed including Tahra of Rupdia Golia of Rajapur, Nazma of Churamorkati, Nasrin of Chachra and Lipika of Norendrapur. Four hundred fortythree others were attacked.

In Bagherpara, a total of one hundred five persons were attacked while two others were killed.

In Keshabpur one hundred seventeen were attacked.

Rajina from Chowgacha was killed while eightyeight others were attacked. No death from Monirampur, Jhikergucha and Sharsha was reported while there were stray cases of Diarrhoea. The only exception were of Hainagar thanas of the district was free from the disease during the period under review.

According to a source, health office is very alert and by now, have taken all possible measures to combat the disease.

## Flood control embankment in Magura by May

MAGURA, Mar 8: The work of Madhumati-Nabaganga Flood Control, Drainage and Irrigation Project is going on in full swing and is expected to be completed by May this year, reports UNB.

The project, between Madhumati and Nabaganga rivers of Magura and Narail districts, was undertaken in the 1983-84 financial year. It is being implemented at a cost of Taka 63 crore with the financial assistance of the World Bank through IDA.

The project aims at protecting the area from flood and providing irrigation facilities to about 40,000 hectares of cultivable lands of sadar and Mohammadpur thanas of the Magura district and Lohagara thana of the Narail district.

Agriculture, Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control Minister M Majid-ul-Haque Saturday paid an extensive visit to different points of the project, including Narayanpur Regulator, Rahatpur Regulator, Kanutia Bridge and various sections of canals to see for himself the progress of the work.

During the visit, the Minister inspected some construction of Kawa Bridge and

he found the work was below the normal standard and specification and directed the concerned authorities to blacklist its contractors.

Speaking at a spontaneous gathering at Narayanpur, Majid-ul-Haque sought cooperation from local people to ensure unhindered development of such people and welfare-oriented development activities in remote areas to bring about a balanced development of the country.

A BSS report says: Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury on Saturday said, Bangladesh Ansar and Village Defence Party had an impor-

tant role in gearing up the socio-economic development activities of the country by motivating the people in the development programmes undertaken by the present government.

State Minister for Textiles Major (Retd) M A Mannan, Moshir Rahman MP, Lutfuzzaman Babar MP and Director General of Ansar VDP Major General Syed Badruzzaman also spoke on the occasion.

The minister said the present government had created a development spree throughout the country. He said compulsory primary education, Food for Education Programme, subsidy in poultry dairy, fisheries and other income generating projects to eradicate poverty and unemployment problem and family planning programme were being conducted by the present government an ansar-VDP development bank with be established for the welfare of the members of the organisation, he added.

The home minister later distributed awards and prizes among the members of local ansar-VDP for their contribution in development and rural welfare activities.



MAULVIBAZAR: The local DC distributing incentive cheques among the poor farmers of the district, recently. — Star photo

## Role of private sector in uplift of livestock formidable : Noman

CHITTAGONG, Mar 8: Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Abdullah-Al-Noman said, the role of the private sector in the development of livestock in the country is formidable, reports UNB.

He was addressing as chief guest at a function for handing over cheques for incentive bonus to the private dairy farm owners at the Shishu Academy auditorium here Monday.

The Minister said the benefit of the incentive bonus programme to give Taka 25,000 as the price of a milch cow to a farm comprising five cows of same category has already begun.

He said the present government have taken different steps to sustain the encouragement of the people in this field adding much emphasis was given to the improvement of the quality of the cattlehead through artificial insemination to make the dairy farming meaningful in the development of national economy by increasing national resources.

In this connection he pinpointed the steps taken up by the government to strengthen artificial insemination programme through supplying deep frozen semen to the remotest parts of the country

with the help of specific containers.

Referring to the internal feud in between veterinary and animal husbandry, Noman said, temporary arrangement has been made to provide short training to the veterinary degree holders in animal husbandry and animal husbandry degree holders in animal veterinary until the final solution of the problem is reached.

Noman said the registration of the medicines for cattle diseases to be transferred to the Directorate of Livestock from the Directorate of Health and the commercial banks are being gradually encouraged to provide loans for setting up dairy farms at lower interest rate.

He said, the establishment of large-scale dairy farms at Chittagong, Barisal and Sylhet is nearing completion to provide more facilities to the people, interested in dairy farming.

Presided over by the Deputy Commissioner of Chittagong AHM Abul Kashem, the function was also addressed by Nazir Ahmed, Faizul Haq Chowdhury, Moulana Abdus Shukur, Lal Mohammad and Kazi Saleuddin Faruk, said a PID handout.

## 'Use of Indian pesticides harmful for soil'

DINAJPUR, Mar 8: Indian adulterated pesticides have flooded the Hakimpur markets and are being sold openly before the nose of the law enforcing agencies, reports UNB.

The pesticides are being smuggled through the border of Akimpur almost every day and are being sold at a very low prices. As a result, the demand for indigenous and imported pesticides is very low in the market.

According to agriculture experts, application of Indian low quality and adulterated pesticides is quit harmful for the productivity and fertility of the soil.

They called upon the government to take stringent action against the selling and using of Indian smuggled pesticides without further delay.

Local people alleged that a section of people are smuggling Indian pesticides with the connivance of some dishonest officials and as such no action is being taken against persons who are selling the pesticides in the open market.

Another report says: A hijacker while fleeing with a

motor-cycle was caught red-handed by the local people from Kishanpur bridge near the town Sunday.

Police also arrested two of his accomplices including a UP member on the basis of his confessional statement and recovered a revolver.

According to police, Ramesh Chandra of village Jalalpur under South Kotwali while returning home riding on a motor bike was attacked by the miscreants and snatched away his vehicle. But one of hijackers, whose identity could not be known was fleeing with the bike met accidents near the bridge and was caught by the local people. He was later handed over to the police.

Police on the basis of confessional statement arrested his two accomplices Sahadat Hossain, son of Mustafizur of village Shekpara under Kotwali thana and a UP member Tofazzal Hossain Tofa under Birampur thana. Police also recovered a loaded revolver from Sahadat Hossain.

Police said there are some criminal cases pending against the UP member.

## Power supply erratic in southern region

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Mar 8: The disruption of power supply in southern region of the country has been going on for last four days causing much inconvenience to the shop keepers and customers during the Eid shopping time.

On sixteen districts under Khulna and Barisal divisions and five districts of Faridpur region, power supply has become erratic that hampers the normal activities of the people and at the same time hit the production sector.

It is learnt that at least 290 to 300 megawatt power supply is necessary for these districts but the supply was 140-150 megawatt maximum for last two days. Thus loadshedding has become inevitable for this region.

For Barisal, Madaripur, Patuakhali and Barguna need minimum 38-40 megawatt of power supply in summer but there only 20 to 22 megawatt

of power maximum is being made available — official sources said.

This power disruption, as it is learnt, due to shortage of power supply from different power generating units in Raizar of Chittagong, Ghorashal and Gasturbine of Rangpur.

Doctors in Barisal today announced further relaxation in their strike programme responding to requests from the elite and high government officials here.

Doctors of Sher-e-Bangla Medical College, Sadar Hospital, TB Clinic and Hospital will stop work from 1 pm to 3 pm from Tuesday.

The decision was taken by the doctors here on the assurance of steps to meet their demands made by Mujibur Rahman Sarwar MP, M A Rashid, Divisional Commissioner and other high officials including Barisal Press Club president S M Iqbal.

## Inhabitants of cluster villages passing hard days

PATUAKHALI, Mar 8: The inhabitants of the cluster villages of the district have been passing their hard days due to lack of care by the administration, reports UNB.

According to informed sources, at least 120 landless families of three cluster villages of sadar, Galachipa and Bauphal thanas have been leading a sub-human life in the absence of employment opportunities.

According to the inmates, some families are facing acute food crisis leading to starvation as they have none to look after them.

Mentionable that these cluster villages for landless and distressed people were set up during the period of President H M Ershad. Every family of

these cluster villages got two bundles CI sheet and two decimal land.

The residents alleged that since the fall of Ershad regime no steps were taken to rehabilitate them properly. In the absence of government help they are not in a position to invest in income-generating schemes to maintain their livelihood.

Local elite said the suffering of these distressed families can be alleviated by distributing khas lands on priority basis and extending soft term loan facilities to till the land.

The poverty stricken inhabitants of the cluster villages urged the authorities to take immediate steps to ameliorate their sufferings for the sake of humanity.

## District roundup

MAGURA

Farmers urged to follow modern technology in agriculture

Mar 8: A three-day long "krishi mela" (Agriculture fair) began Sunday at Sreepur thana of Magura district, reports BSS.

Agriculture and Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control Minister Major General (Retd) M Majid-ul-Haq formally inaugurated the fair.

Different types of HYV vegetables and fruits agricultural inputs, households animals and livestock have been put on display in the fair. Organised by agriculture extension office of Magura, the fair is being participated by farmers of all thanas of Magura district.

The agriculture minister went round different parts of the fair and expressed his satisfaction to see the attendance. He talked to the farmers and inquired about their problems.

The minister said the present government had put its best efforts to develop the agriculture sector. He said farmers and agricultural field workers were devoting their maximum labour and intelligence to enhance production. He said, if the trends of production continued, Bangladesh would be self-sufficient in all kinds of food within a few years. He suggested the farmers to accept the modern technology and ideas to increase production.

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, Mar 8: Rashid, 27, an alleged Sarbahara activist was slaughtered late Sunday night at Srpur thana close to his residence.

Rashid was forced out of his residence at gunpoint by 30 to 35 armed men and taken to a nearby spot where he was killed.

None has been arrested so far.

FARIDPUR

Training course on modern technology of jute cultivation

Mar 8: A three-day training course on "Modern Technology of Jute Cultivation" began at the Kabi Jasim Uddin Hall here on Saturday, reports UNB.

Organised by Jute Directorate, the training course, first of its kind in the region, was inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner of Faridpur KM Nurul Huda.

One hundred and twenty jute growers of three districts — Faridpur, Rajbari and Gopalganj — are attending the training course, which covers selection of soil, seed, fertilizer and rating of jute.

The inaugural ceremony was also addressed by the regional Assistant Controller of Jute AYM Mahiuddin and Chief Inspector of Jute Altaf Hossain.

SATKHIRA

Indian national awarded 10yrs Rigorous Imprisonment

From Our Correspondent

Mar 8: A N M Bashir Ullah, special tribunal judge convicted Shibu Roy of Kazipara village under Barasat police station of West Bengal, India and sentenced him to suffer Rigorous Imprisonment for 10 years and to pay a fine of 5000 in default RI for one year more on charge of possessing illegal fire arms in a judgement recently.

The prosecution story in brief is that the accused Shibu Roy was caught red handed by police from Kadamtala Bazar, sadar thana on July 12, 1991. One Indian made revolver with five rounds of cartridges were also recovered from his possession. A case was lodged with Satkhira police station and after investigation police submitted chargesheet against him.

COMILLA

Help implement more uplift projects

Mar 8: Works Minister Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mia has urged the people from all walks of life to strengthen the hands of Begum Khaleda Zia to implement the development projects undertaken by the government or the socio-economic development of the common people, reports BSS.

The minister was speaking as chief guest at a meeting organised by BNP Muradnagar thana unit, held at the Muradnagar thana here Monday.

MYMENSINGH

6108 hectares of land under mustard cultivation

Mar 8: A total of 6108 hectares of land have been brought under mustard seed cultivation in 12 thanas of the district in the current season, reports BSS.

The production target of mustard seed has been fixed 4214 metric tons.

Thanawise cultivation of land are - sadar 600 hectares, Muktagacha - 610 hectares, Fulbaria - 504 hectares, Trishal - 142 hectares, Bhaluka - 135 hectares, Gaffargaon 265 hectares, Nandail - 900 hectares, Iswarganj 161 hectares, Gouripur 300 hectares, Phulpur 327 hectares, Halaughat 300 hectares and Dhobaura 170 hectares.

Besides, 4490 hectares of land have been brought under potato cultivation in the district during the current season.

RAJBARI

57 public auditoriums constructed

Mar 8: Social Services Department has completed construction of 57 public auditorium in the greater Faridpur district at a cost of Taka 54.17 lakh, reports UNB.

Of the total, 28 auditoriums were constructed in Faridpur, 10 at Gopalganj, 15 at Madaripur, three at Shariatpur and one at Rajbari.

The auditoriums were constructed to facilitate people to hold seminars, symposia and discussion meetings on education, health, childcare, population control, prevention of diseases of mother and child, immunization etc.

Another report adds: Social Services Department had rehabilitated 223 distressed orphan girls of two "Shishu Sadans" of Rajbari and Faridpur in the last ten years by arranging their marriages.

Besides, the department provided over 1000 children of the sadans with self-employment facilities after giving necessary education and vocational training on different trades.

The department have been maintaining 830 distressed orphans in five government "Shishu Sadans" including one hearing impaired school in five districts namely Rajbari, Faridpur, Gopalganj, Madaripur and Shariatpur.

Besides, government has also been supplying dal, edible oil and wheat to 68 registered non-government orphanages.

JAMALPUR

One gets 5 years RI for kidnapping

Mar 8: District and Sessions Judge M A Ahad Choudhury sentenced one person to suffer five years rigorous imprisonment on charge of kidnapping a boy, says BSS.

Prosecution story is that accused Sukhen and his accomplices of Plarpur under sadar thana raided the house of Ramprasad Goala of the village, assaulted him and kidnapped his tinger son, Narayan on March 3 in 1991. Muktagachha thana police rescued Narayan and arrested Sukhen 15 days later.

The judge after examining 18 witnesses found the accused guilty of the charge and sentenced Sukhen to suffer five years rigorous imprisonment.

NETRAKONA

Law, order situation improves

Mar 8: Crime control meeting sponsored by Netrakona district police was held at police office here recently, reports BSS.

Police officers from ten thanas under Netrakona district and leaders of different socio-political organisations and professional groups attended the meeting. Prominent among them are Abdul Koddus, General Secretary of BNP, Netrakona, Fazlur Rahman Khan, President of Awami League, Netrakona, Asruddin Khan, President of Jatio Party, Netrakona, and Shemolendu Paul, President of the Journalist Association, Netrakona. The meeting was presided over by Anwar Hussain Khan, Police Super, Netrakona.

The meeting reviewed the crime situation and crime control method. The meeting was informed that a series of anti-crime operations were launched in different areas of the district.