

National

Maintain peace
on campus:
Shahabuddin

From Staff Correspondent
KISHOREGANJ, Apr 18: Chief Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed recently called upon all to maintain a congenial atmosphere in the educational institutions to enable the pursuit of higher education by the students.

The Chief Justice was addressing as chief guest the inaugural ceremony of the 3-day celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of the Gurudayal College here Thursday. Justice Shahabuddin is a former student of the college.

The Chief Justice regretted that due to violence and terrorism the educational institutions, including the universities remained closed for long periods of time.

Shahabuddin said that war-defeated and devastated Japan rose from the ashes like a phoenix only because of its pursuit of technical knowledge.

"We could not make any significant progress other than increasing population," the Chief Justice observed.

Presided by the Principal of the College Prof Mukkaram Hussain, others who spoke included Advocate Abdul Hamid, an AL MP, Major (Retd) Aktaruzzaman, a BNP MP, Fazlul Huq, Deputy Commissioner of Kishoreganj, Mahbubul Rahman, DG, Customs and Excise, Mir Nasiruddin, Deputy Secretary of the Dhaka Education Board and Bahar Miah, VP of the college students' union.

At one stage during the inaugural function, there was a pandemonium after Major Aktaruzzaman, MP in his speech criticised the present judicial system. He alleged that most of the judges remained in confined chambers and were not properly discharging their duties. As a result, he said, the people were deprived of prompt justice.

Teenage girl
gang rapped

MAGURA, Apr 18: A teenage girl was gang-rapped after she was kidnapped from her residence at village Horind in Sreepur thana early this month, reports UNB.

Taslim Begum Lipi, 12, a student of class seven was abducted by a some youths on April 3 while she was studying at her home.

She was later taken to a house in village Faridpur in Sreepur thana and was violated in a gang rape.

Police rescued her from the house and arrested one Shamim 18. The accused was forwarded to the court.

Taslimi is the daughter of Khalefah Hossain.

A case has been registered with the Sreepur Police.

**Businessman robbed
of Tk one lakh
in Ctg**

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Apr 18: A group of terrorists allegedly snatched one lakh from a businessman at Agraabadi Karanfil Market.

The snatchers exploded cocktails while fleeing with the money. They snatched the money from one Shah Alam who was taking the amount to deposit in a bank.

A case was filed with Doublemooring thana. Police arrested a suspect.

Youngman
cut into pieces

JHENIDAH, Apr 18: A youngman was cut into pieces which were found Wednesday scattered near a police camp at village Riskhali in Harinakundu thana, reports UNB.

Police recovered the body of Idris Ali, 30, identified as a member of the outlawed Purba Bangla Communist Party, who was kidnapped Tuesday night from his residence by a gang of miscreants.

**Rly station
needs development
From Our Correspondent**

KURIGRAM, Apr 18: Kurigram Railway Station has been facing multifarious problems due to lack of development for quite sometime past.

The platform of the station was damaged at places and many potholes have developed on it where water remains stagnant during the rainy season.

In the absence of third class waiting room, hundreds of passengers have to keep themselves standing in the open platform for hours together, while the upper class waiting room lacks in sufficient quantity of furniture.

Moreover, there is no latrine or urinal adjacent to the platform. The only latrine inside the first class waiting room can hardly cope with the necessity.

Thousands of passengers have urge the authority to remove the short comings of Kurigram Railway Station.



WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH: The tribal people of Chittagong Hill Tracks carry heavy goods up and down the hills on their backs the traditional way.

— Photo by A K M Mohsin

Tk 800cr plan to develop medical services

FARIDPUR, Apr 18: The government will spend Taka 800 crore for construction of 700 family welfare and 46 thana health centres throughout the country by 1996 for improving rural healthcare services, says an UNB report.

This was disclosed by Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf while inaugurating here Saturday a 12-day-long workshop on Cost, Resource Use and Financing of District Health Services.

The workshop, first of its kind outside the capital, has been jointly organised by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and UNICEF.

It is being attended by Health and Family Planning and Medical Officers of some selected thanas of Faridpur, Dinajpur, Narail, Moulvibazar and Jhalokati districts.

Senior officials of the ministry, BIDS, NGOs and UNICEF are also attending it.

The opening function, held in the conference hall of BESF, Badarpur, was chaired

by Dr Kazi Syed Ahmed, Civil Surgeon of Faridpur, and also addressed by Deputy Commissioner KM Nurul Huda. Dr Dilwar Ali Khan of UNICEF, Bangladesh and Dr Abdul Majid Tibouti, Senior Adviser to UNICEF, New York.

The Health Minister said, it is time to find out the reasons for 200 to 300 per cent bed occupancy in some district hospitals as against average 30 per cent bed use in thana hospitals.

The present government is committed to doing everything possible to bring about a positive change in healthcare system as 80 per cent of the population lives in villages," Yusuf said.

He urged the participants to use the knowledge of the workshop for the benefit of the masses.

Dr Dilwar Ali Khan stated that Bangladesh would be the first among SAARC nations to attain self-sufficiency in salt iodization by June this year.

Two cases have been filed with the thana thana in connection with the two accidents.

A report from Magura adds:

A school student was killed

when their car skidded into a roadside ditch while trying to save a dog on the Magura-Jhenidah road Sunday.

Jikur Rahman, 9, son of Dr Zafarullah and student of Jhenidah Pre-cadet School, was going with his parents to Barisal to attend a marriage ceremony when the accident occurred Sunday morning.

Jikur was rushed back to the thana hospital in critical condition where he succumbed to his fatal injuries, police and hospital sources said.

In another accident the same day on the same road, a youngman was hit and killed by a speeding bus. Police said Faizur Rahman, 22, was run over by a Chaudanga-bound bus coming from Faridpur while crossing the road in front of the police line at 8:30 am.

Police seized the bus, but the driver and the helper managed to flee.

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Tk 20 crore project for more electric lines

JAMALPUR, Apr 18: Rural Electrification Board in Jamalpur has taken up an ambitious Taka 20 crore programme for providing electricity in the rural areas of four thanas of the district, reports UNB.

The work on the project in Islampur, Meladah, Madarganj and Bakshiganj thanas will begin in July next.

Jamalpur Rural Electrification Association started its network covering sadar, Sharishabari and Sherpur thanas with a fund of Taka 30 crore in 1984.

During the last 10 years the association set up 1240 km long electric line in 2100 villages providing 25,000 household connections, 2,100 connections in irrigation pumps and 300 in big and small-scale industries.

As a result, 77,000 acres of farm land have been brought under irrigation network producing additional 16 lakh maunds of rice annually and creating job opportunities for 5,000 people.

The General Manager of the Association said, some 427 km

long electric line will be set up in the four thanas under the programme which is expected to be completed at the end of 1995.

After completion of the project, 115 villages of the area will come under electricity supply. Some 30,000 household connections, 5,000 irrigation pump connections and over 200 industrial connections will be provided.

Parliament Member from Madarganj Mirza Azam has expressed gratitude to the Rural Electrification Board for taking up the ambitious scheme for supplying electricity in the rural areas.

BSS report adds: Construction of six kilometre long Bakshiganj-Sreebardi road started recently at a cost Taka 1.60 crore under the auspices of Local Government Engineering Department.

Parliament Member Abul Kalam Azad formally inaugurated the construction work.

On construction of the road, communication between Baksheganj and Sreebardi will be improved.

Tk 1.2 lakh stolen wheat seized in Magura

MAGURA, Apr 18: Police recovered 221 bags of stolen wheat valued at Taka 1.20 lakh from two trucks near the district food godown, reports UNB.

Acting on a tip, police raided the trucks at Belnagar area on Magura-Kamarkhali road on April 3 and seized the wheat which was being taken to Faridpur to sell in the blackmarket.

According to SK Sirjul Islam, Officer-in-Charge of Kotwali thana, the recovered wheat was sanctioned for "Food for Works Programme" to re-excavate Nabaganga river in the current dry season.

It is alleged that Tapan Kumar Roy, Project Chairman of Nabaganga River Re-excavation Scheme, lifted the wheat from the same day to sell it in the blackmarket.

A case has been filed with the police.

Minister for Religious Affairs M Keramat Ali has said that the hopes and aspirations of the commonman could be fulfilled through consolidating the democratic process in the country, reports UNB.

It suggested linking of Food for Education Programme, use of electricity from the national grid in the industrialisation of Bholi and establishment of gas turbine depending on exploration of gas in Bholi for production of power to augment its supply in the western grid.

About two and a half lakh people from all walks of life including a large number of women and children took part in the festivities which included cultural shows, fairs and exhibitions.

Addressing two separate public meetings at Madarubnia and Marchibunia in the district Saturday, the minister said, present government has been working with utmost sincerity to meet the basic needs of the common people.

A case has been filed with the police.

2 killed, 26 hurt in clashes

Two people were killed and 26 others injured in three separate clashes in the district during the last one week, police said here Friday.

In one incident an old woman — Sadhu Bibi, 70, was

killed and six others were injured in a clash at village Vhantov in Salikha thana on April 4.

The clash erupted when rival supporters of Abdus Salam and Abdur Rab, attacked each other with sticks and lethal weapons.

Rab and Salam were among the injured, being treated at the Magura Hospital.

Sadhu Bibi, who was also injured in the clash was rushed to the hospital, but died soon after her admission. The feud was due to old enmity, police said.

In a similar incident in village Sreepur thana, 10 people were injured, three of them seriously.

The injured were being treated at the Magura Hospital.

Police said, supporters of Baki Zorader and Abbas Ali groups clashed on April 9 leaving several people injured.

In another clash at village Ramkrishnapur in Mohammadpur thana, a young man was killed and 10 others were injured on April 6.

Nobul Islam and his brother Atear Rahman were beaten mercilessly by rival group members following an altercation over crop damage by a cow. Nobul died on the spot.

Indian pesticides flood markets despite govt ban

SAVAR, Apr 18: Indian spurious pesticides are being sold in different markets of the district despite government ban, says UNB.

The farmers are using the Indian pesticides due to its low prices in the local market but they said, they are not getting the expected results.

Some dishonest traders are selling the pesticides, including Thiodin, Thiodol DDT and XN-50 Helbesh, in collaboration with a section of concerned officials. The law enforcing agencies were said to be reluctant to take action in this regard.

According to agri scientists, extensive use of spurious pesticides decreases land produc-

tion capacity and affect the health of the farmers.

Local pesticides producers urged the concerned authorities to take action against those responsible for marketing Indian sub-standard spurious pesticides.

Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre (BPATC) has drawn up a two-day programme beginning April 27 to celebrate the completion of a decade of its existence.

The programme was finalised at a meeting of the Board of Governors (BOG) at BPATC Saturday with State Minister for Establishment and BOG President Barrister Aminul Haq in the chair, said an official handout.

With the establishment of thanas, many government offices and private establishments have been set up in the thana head-quarters. But nothing tangible has yet been done to save the life and property of the culprits.

According to police, the miscreants numbering eight swooped on the girl of Benahati village in sadar thana and violated her at Patharghata beel near Bhowkhali village one after another in front of her brother on March 13.

She was going to attend a marriage ceremony of her relation accompanied by her mother and brother.

Later, she was brought to Narail sadar hospital in an unconscious state but she left the hospital the following morning for fear of life.

A case was filed with the police on March 17.

Meanwhile, local people expressed dissatisfaction over police inaction and held processions and rallies demanding exemplary punishment to the culprits.

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