

## National

## Free health services for poor

From Our Correspondent  
CHUADANGA, May 15: A Free Friday Clinics organised by a local social organisation called "Chetona Janakallayan and Sanchay Uddag" — Chuadanga is providing free health services to destitute people of the district for the last eight months.

The Free Friday Clinic was opened on September 24 last year by a group of young boys of Rupchaya Chuadanga Cinema Hall Para in cooperation with some social workers of Chuadanga town.

On every Friday over 100 destitute patients from different parts of the district are given free of cost treatment.

According to the clinic sources, medicine worth over Taka 1,000 are being distributed among the destitute patients who are being treated in the clinic over 3,000 patients. So far were given treatment.

The organisation "Chetona Janakallayan and Sanchay Uddag" which is running the Friday clinic has 100 general members and an eight member executive committee. The members pay a monthly subscription of Taka 10 each which is used to run the clinic.

The sad social organisation has also a long-ranging programme to extend their hands for the help of the destitute people of the society.

In the meantime, the organisation has also formed a fund from which they have been giving loans to some destitute people of the locality for running small businesses.

## One stabbed to death in Sirajganj

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, May 15: As-salants stabbed a man to death at village Subornashara in Belkuchi thana Friday night after he refused to give them money.

The victim, identified as, Abdus Samad aged 43, along with his two daughters and wife was on his way to his in-laws house at North Baniyagat Charpara, when he was attacked by the gang of five to six people.

The miscreants indiscriminately stabbed him in as he resisted to handover his cash of Tk 5,500.

Hearing the hue and cry of his family members, local people rushed to the spot and found him dead.

A case has been filed with the local police.

Another UNB report adds: A housewife, who was a prey to a mistaken identity, at a village in Ullapara succumbed to her injuries at a clinic here today (Saturday) after receiving grievous cut injuries on her thigh Thursday night by some miscreants.

Karima Khatun, 38, wife of Ayub Ali, was rushed to a clinic of the town Thursday night after miscreants tried to slaughter her by entering their house. Ayub was out of the house at the time of the incident.

The miscreants, identified as the nephew of Ayub Ali and his accomplices, mistakenly attacked Karima Khatun assuming her as Ayub in the dark.

**Freshers' reception at Pabna Cadet College held**

From Our Correspondent

PABNA, May 15: The freshers' reception of the 17th batch of cadets of Pabna Cadet College was held at 'Chhaya Kanan' at the college campus on May 12. Parents and guardians of the cadets were also present on the occasion.

Principal of the college, Ali Ashraf Noor in his brief speech said that with every passing days the importance of the cadet colleges is gaining momentum. He also lauded the role of the cadet colleges as these institutions aim at imparting proper education to the cadets so that they become honest, modest and worthy citizens of the country.

He also stressed the need for learning English so that the cadets could make themselves acquainted with the modern world. Noor also sought cooperation of the guardians to achieve this desired goal.

The function was also attended, among others, by Mahtabuddin, Vice-Principal, Major Sayeed, Adjutant, Captain Munir, Medical Officer, ANC, and members of other faculties of the college.

Earlier, Rafiqul Islam, Assistant Professor of Bengali Department and House Master of Titumir House in his introductory speech gave a vivid description of the academic atmosphere and activities of the college.

The function was rounded off with a light refreshment.



CHUADANGA: Poor people waiting in queue for free treatment.

## Three killed in Sirajganj road mishap

SIRAJGANJ, May 15: Three people were killed and four others injured when a loaded truck turned turtle and fell into a road-side ditch Saturday morning near Sialkhor poultry farm of Sadar thana on New Bogra road, reports UNB.

Witnesses said the driver of the cattle loaded Sirajganj bound truck coming from Bogra lost the control of the gear and the vehicle plunged not the ditch at 9 am.

The driver and the helper managed to escape. Police seized the truck and a case has been filed.

## Primary schools in Jamalpur face manifold problems

From Our Correspondent

JAMALPUR, May 15: The condition of 80 per cent government primary schools and almost all the non-government primary schools in seven thanas of the district has long been gripped with various problems hindering proper education.

A total of 194 government registered primary schools have not yet received any financial grant.

Most of these schools do not have adequate furniture, space and educational appliances to cope with the requirements.

According to reports, a large number of school buildings which were damaged by the devastating erosion, cyclone, storms during the last few years.

Although a very few schools have been selected for repair or reconstruction. The quality of work is anything but satisfactory, according to the reports from different areas.

The shortage of teachers and accommodation have aggravated the situation. It is found that classes are being taken under the open sky. During the rainy season, the sufferings of the children go beyond description.

In the rural areas most of the schools have no tubewell and latrine.

It is informed that most of the teachers do not go to the school regularly and some attend for only an hour or two. They manage the classes by entrusting the senior students with the task of teaching the lower classes. Most of them have kept themselves engaged in other business or professions, it is alleged.

The compulsory primary education programme is also facing a setback due to lack of facilities.

An official source when contacted could not give any satisfactory reply in this regard.

The source claimed that arrangement would soon be completed to send about 80 per cent children between the age group of six and ten to the schools.

## Co-operatives meets

A co-operatives meeting was held at Islampur thana auditorium here recently.

SM Khairul Bashar Chisty, Chairman of District unit Co-

operative Bank Limited was also present as a chief guest.

The meeting presided over by Islampur thana samabaya officer A Samad while addressed, among others, Shafiqul Islam, Khaja Miah, A Rashid, Kamal Uddin and others.

Irrigation equipment and goods worth over Taka two crore of Jamalpur BADC (irrigation) under Mymensingh circle have been sold at a throwaway price of Taka nine lakh through open auction bid recently.

It is learnt that different types of equipment, such as engine pump set, electric motor etc worth crores of taka have been lying unsold and uncared for long in the godowns of all circles of BADC.

Earlier, BADC used to sell such items through auction. But due to faulty fixation of inconsistent price of the items compared to market price and auction rate, effort of the government failed several times.

The government directed the relevant authorities to expedite disposal of the goods through inviting tender. The BADC authorities however, decided to sell all goods stocked in their godowns in the country within January 31, 1994 under government directive and pressure.

In all goods worth Taka 2,10,41368 were stocked in 11 godowns of Jamalpur Zone auction of which was held on January 23, 24, 26, 27, 28 and 31 respectively, according to the above decision.

But it is alleged that nowhere fair and competitive auction was held. Bona fide businessmen or firms could not participate in these auctions in the face of threat and obstruction by the influential vested quarters.

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BADC Mymensingh circle convenor and other members of the auction committee were present on the auction dates.

The most significant and surprising fact is, that those who obtained the bids had sold out the goods to others of prices 5 to 7 times higher than the original bids in presence of BADC's auction authority without even waiting for final approval of the same. The auction holders are now trying to get their auction orders approved by the appropriate authority.

An officer of BADC on condition of anonymity told this correspondent that although there were many types of equipment lying at BADC godowns for long the authority had failed to fix up selling price of these till date. If price of these equipment could be fixed earlier they would not have been lying unsold in the godown's for such a long time.

In some cases it is found that BADC fixed price of equipment much higher than the market price, he said. According to the office, a sizeable quantity of equipment could not be sold in time due to the above reasons. Moreover, no initiative had been taken to make the BADC to fix price of the equipment consistent with market price.

These equipment could not be sold even after minimising the price. Initiative should have been taken much earlier by derailed the equipment at the rate of 10.20 or 30 per cent in phases.

This process may still save BADC from huge financial loss. On the other hand, genuine farmers would be benefited in purchasing their much needed equipment at a cheaper rate directly from the BADC.

## 69 SSC examines expelled

At least 69 SSC examinees were expelled for adopting unfair means from seven examination halls in the district in the last five examinations.

The examination passed off peacefully despite strike by a section of teachers.

Guardians expressed satisfaction at the peaceful holding of the examination and thanked the government for making adequate arrangement of holding examination.

Businessmen exerted their social and political influence to grab auctions bids in their favour adopting unfair means.

Of the fixed face value at over 2 crore, total auction bid of all items stocked in the 11 godowns of Jamalpur Zone of BADC stood at only 9,33,600 that is 4.43 per cent at the fixed price after government, which is on the other hand, 35.57 per cent less than the rate of minimum 40 per cent in case of disposing of government goods.

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## Tk 2.77cr cultural complex at Shahjadpur

SHAHJADPUR (Sirajganj), May 15: A cultural complex is being set up at Shahjadpur 'Rabindra Kuthibari' premises at a cost of Taka two crore 77 lakh. Various infrastructures including a 500 seat capacity modern auditorium would be commissioned at the complex with a view to flourishing national culture, reports BSS.

State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof. Jahana Begum disclosed this while addressing the closing ceremony of the 133rd birth anniversary of Poet Rabindranath Tagore. Presided over by local member of the parliament Kamruddin Ehla Khan-Majlis the function was addressed among others by Begum Rahima Khondoker MP, local eminent educationist Dr Abu Sayeed and Nasimuddin Malitha and director of the archaeology department.

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