

National



JAFFLONG (Sylhet): This region, bordering India, has become an important business centre. Thousands of tons of stones are collected from this area for use as part of construction material. Small boats, specially designed, like this one carry stones to the river bank to be transported to other districts of the country.

—Star photo

District roundup

CHITTAGONG

Trucks collide head on two killed

June 12: Two persons were killed and another four injured when two loaded truck collided head on at Choto Kumri on Dhaka-Chittagong highway. reports BSS.

District police control room sources said the accident took place when two trucks coming from opposite direction collided head on. The drivers of the two trucks died on the spot. The front parts of the trucks were badly damaged.

The victims could not be identified but one of the injured was admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

FARIDPUR

Workshop on LCS concludes

June 12: A two-day workshop on the Labour Contracting Society (LCS) in Infrastructure Development Projects of Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) was concluded here on Monday, reports UNB.

The workshop was participated by 50 experts and field level officials of LGED, BRDB, WDB, CIDA, NORADA, ETDA and other government organisations.

The participants discussed LCS system adopted in different organisations and projects, identifying the problems, formulation of proposals, promotion of employment opportunities and skill development of the members of LCS.

The LCS is a group of landless men and women engaged by LGED to implement small construction and maintenance schemes on contract basis. This was introduced in 1983-84 with a view to providing job opportunities through income generating schemes.

The inaugural function of the workshop, organised by LGED, was addressed, among others by Abu Taher Khan.

SATKHIRA

2 Women rescued while being trafficked to India

June 12: Two women were rescued at Alipur of sadar thana on Monday while being taken to India by the women traffickers, says UNB.

The victims were identified as Saleha daughter of Shamsur Mollah of Molladangi Sreerampur in Modhukhura thana and Kathi bazar in Gopalganj sadar thana, two of the biggest important business centres of the district have been gripped by numerous problems.

Both the markets face shortage of space, absence of conservancy services, lack of proper drainage system and drinking water.

According to the authorities of the markets, no plans were taken to expand and develop the areas of markets to cope with the increasing number of both shoppers and traders over the years creating severe stalemate in business transactions. This situation has given little opportunity to the business community of the areas to expand their business," says one businessman of Kashiani thana.

"The roads," complains one trader, "in and around the market places are not spacious enough to accommodate rising number of shoppers as well as traders." Easy movement inside the markets has become difficult as more unauthorised shops were set up during last

BARISAL

BRDB disburses Tk 40 cr as loan

June 12: Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB) disbursed Tk 40.27 crore as loan among 11.1435 destitute men and women for development of their socio-economic condition, reports UNB.

The loans were distributed in 139 thanas of 17 districts including Barisal during the last seven months.

The BRDB also distributed Tk 15.30 crore as loan among 2,76,922 members belonging to 13,081 societies engaged in various production oriented as well as income generating occupations.

The loan money was mostly utilised in raising poultry farms, development of piculture, promotion of small business, purchasing cows and different kind of vans and for vegetal cultivation.

Board sources said, 95 per cent of the loan has already been realised.

Markets in Gopalganj face various problems

From Our Correspondent

GOPALGANJ, June 12: The Ramdia bazar in Kashiani thana and Kathi bazar in Gopalganj sadar thana, two of the biggest important business centres of the district have been gripped by numerous problems.

The market authorities collect sufficient amount of tax from the businessmen but they offer little to keep the markets neat and clean. Heaps of garbages are dumped inside the market areas every day but there is no arrangement to remove them.

The areas in and around the markets are said to go under water whenever it rains as there are no drains leading out from the markets.

The only tube-well available for Ramdia market remains out of order for a long time. Access to drinking water for the traders is obviously absent. However, the authority concerned is playing a silent role about the matter.

The markets also lack proper power supply facilities. There are many illegal power connections arranged by the power department workers themselves at the cost of bribes, it is alleged. Most of the shops run their business in candle light.

BNP govt sets trend of development: Matin

NARAYANGANJ, June 12: Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury said the present government, under the leadership of Begum Khaleda Zia has set up a trend of development for the uplift of the common masses, reports BSS.

He was addressing the foundation laying ceremony of new building of Murapara College, Gandharbapur High School, Adarsha High School, Hazi Rafiuddin Girls' High School, Bhutta High School and Sunflower Kindergarten at Rupganj thana here.

Home Minister said, the government has announced an 11 thousand crore Taka annual development programme (ADP) for the year 1994-95, where education is the priority sector, the present government is determined to ensure

education for all by the year 2000, he added.

The minister said, since education is pre-requisite for any development, so the present government, during its last 3 years of tenure has been allocating the highest budget provision for education. The minister also said, the communication sector has also been significantly improved and as a result now almost all the corners of the country are well linked.

He said when it is imperative to continue the development process unhindered, a certain political force is trying to disrupt the process.

He urged the people to be aware of these ill-motivated political forces and contribute to the effort of the government.

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For the Bumper Quiz Competition, there will be a Bumper Prize consisting of a ticket to the World Cup Final match, along with an Economic Class return air ticket (Dhaka-Los Angeles-Dhaka) and an amount of Tk. 100,000/- in cash. The Star does not take any responsibility for any visa or other travel documents that may be required. The Bumper Quiz Winner will have to make his/her own arrangements in this regard. In case of the Bumper Quiz winner's inability to travel to the USA he/she may choose to receive a sum of Tk. 100,000/- in cash in lieu of the air fare and living expenses.

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