

Massive aus cultivation plan in Mymensingh zone

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, June 29: A total of about two lakh sixty four thousand three hundred hectares of land will be brought under the Aus paddy cultivation under intensive farming programme during the current summer season in five districts of Mymensingh Agricultural Zone (MAZ), officials sources said.

The districts are: Mymensingh, Jamalpur, Sherpur, Netrakona and Kishoreganj.

Additional Director of Agriculture Extension Department, Mymensingh, Paresh Chandra Das said, the 1,32,300 hectares under the different of High Yielding Varieties (HYV) Aus and the 1,32,000 hectares under the different varieties of local Aus.

He also said that under the programme, the target of aus paddy production has been fixed at 3,96,600 metric tons in these districts. It includes, 2,64,600 metric tons from the

Jaundice takes serious turn in Moulvibazar

From Our Correspondent

MOULVIBAZAR, June 29: Jaundice is spreading alarmingly in all the six thanas of Moulvibazar district.

In the district headquarters and adjacent areas the disease has taken a serious turn and members of almost all the families have been attacked by the disease.

Dr Hemanta Das, Medical Officer of Moulvibazar Sadar Hospital told this correspondent, there is no need of any medicine for the jaundice. But the patient will have normal food, drink boiled water and have complete physical rest. It is fatal if not timely treated, Dr Das added.

Dr Jilul Hoque, Medical Officer of the office of the civil surgeon Moulvibazar when contacted advise the patients to take water of coconut, juice of sugarcane or other fruits.

He explained that glucose is the most important diet for recovery from jaundice. According to his advice, glucose flourishing food items are essential to the jaundice patient.



CHITTAGONG: Milon, a community support network recently celebrated its third birth anniversary. The organisation helps the poor specially the women and children to provide free education, health services and arranges income generating projects for women. Last year the organisation built a two storeyed mosque-cyclone shelter (picture) in Banskhali on a piece of land donated by the people of Bahar Chara. American Network for Services and Relief, ANSAR and Bangladesh Overseas Association of Chittagong, BOAC funded the project. Milon has also established a sewing centre at Halishahar. Products from the centre are sold every year for sources of income.

200-yr old road needs repairing

By Staff Correspondent

FENI, June 29: The two-hundred years old road in Chhagalnaiya thana which links the Dhaka-Chittagong trunk road needs immediate repairing.

The road which passes through the areas of west Pathanagar in Feni, Gandhakpur, Gatia, Sonapur, Srichandpur, Matigaha and Chandgazi bazar has provided communication to innumerable villages in the region.

The ancient Chandgazi bazar was very important and popular before the independence of the country. In Chandgazi bazar, there is a high school, primary school, rural health centre, Mahamaya union parishad bhavan, krishi unnyayan daptar, tahsil office, post office, Sonali Bank, Krishi Bank and Grameen Bank branches and two madrasahs. The people living in south-west of Mahamaya union are completely dependent on this road for communication.

Many roads were developed in the Mahamaya union in Chhagalnaiya thana recently, but this historic road have been ignored.

Two arrested, pipegun recovered

From Our Correspondent

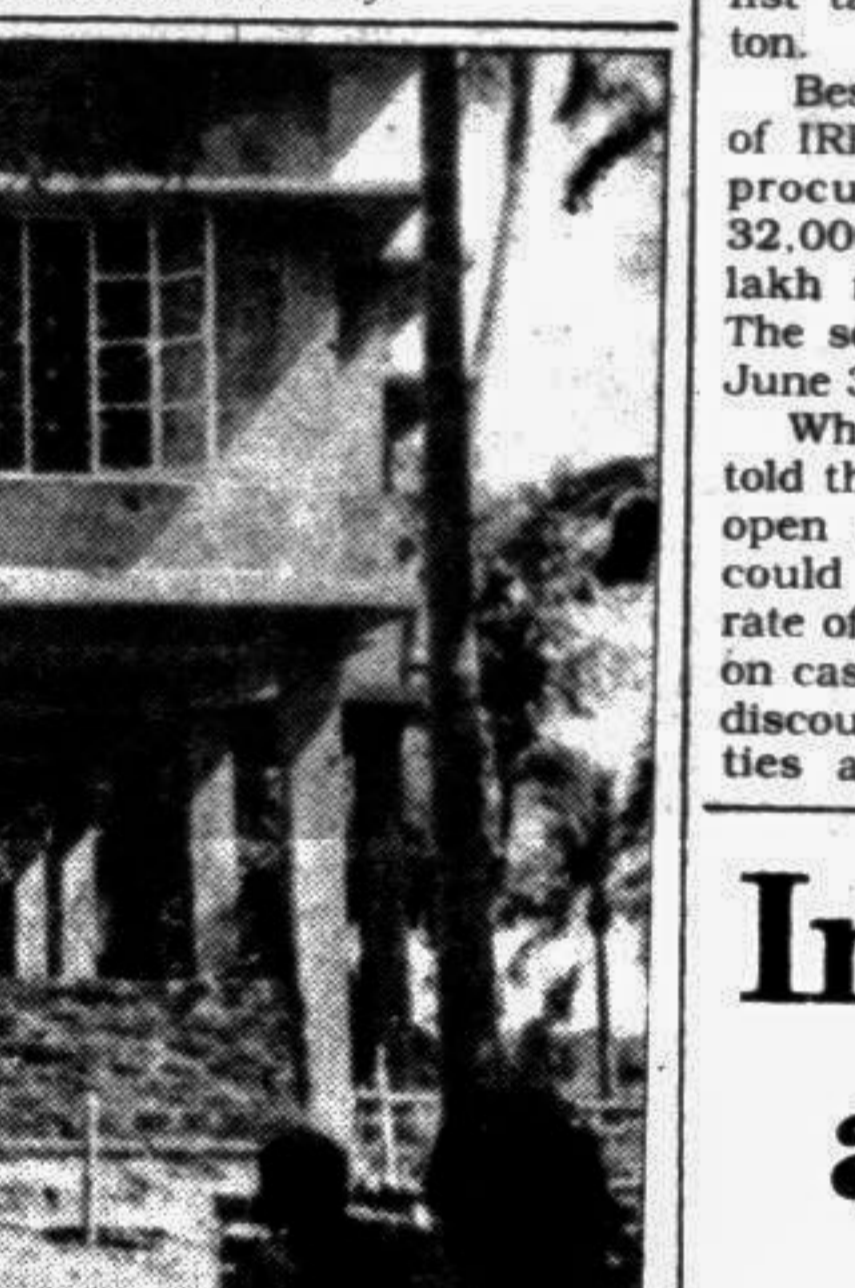
JHENAI DAH, June 29: Two persons were arrested and one pipegun was recovered from them at village Jinnanagar in Moheshpur thana recently.

According to reports, the villagers nabbed, Noor Ali and Abdul Hakim and handed them over to the police. Police after thorough interrogation recovered a pipegun from a nearby pond. Police said that the miscreants were believed to be activists of outlawed Purbabanga Communist Party.

Another report says, two rival groups of students exchanged fire at Govt Keshabchandra College, Jhenaidah the same day.

Police later arrested Samrat Dolar and Saidul in this connection.

According to another report, Aruna Khatun, 16, a house wife of village Chara Tribenia in Saikupa thana committed suicide by taking pesticides recently.



DINAJPUR, June 29: Smuggled Indian insecticides are causing adverse effects on the crops and land all over three northern districts of Panchagarh, Thakurgaon and Dinajpur.



SYLHET: A F M Kamal, Chairman of Sylhet pourashava speaking at the inaugural function of a motivational workshop on "pure water and health" held recently. The 5-day workshop was jointly organised by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) and Sylhet municipal authority.

Paddy, wheat procurement scheme fails in N-districts

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, June 29: Paddy and wheat procurement scheme of the government fails in 16 northern districts due to manifold reasons including complexity in receiving goods and payment of bills by the godown authorities. The scheme of procuring Aman paddy and wheat have already failed and IRRI procurement scheme may also not achieve the target.

It is gathered that the government look up a scheme to procure Aman paddy, rice and wheat on direct purchase system to ensure fair price to the growers. Due to complexity in weighing system, moisture measurement, delayed payment of bills and varying market price only 10 per cent of the target was achieved in 16 northern districts. A source of the concerned department told this correspondent that only 489 metric tons of Aman paddy was procured against targeted 1,20,000 metric tons, 8074 metric tons of rice was procured against one lakh metric ton, 15,793 metric tons of wheat was procured against targeted 1,25,000 metric ton.

Besides, only eight per cent of IRRI paddy and rice was procured against targeted 32,000 metric ton and two lakh metric ton respectively. The scheme will be ended on June 30 next.

While contacted, a grower told this correspondent that in open market paddy and rice could be sold at the higher rate of Tk 10 to 20 per maund on cash payment and they are discouraged to sell commodities at the government go-

especially in the town.

This is going on without any check and resistance from any quarter what-so-ever. It has become a common and regular feature of this town now a days. The adulterated food stuff are posing a great danger to the public health.

Ghee, mustered oil, coconut oil, daida, milk, sweetmeats and soyabean oils etc all are adulterated with chemical reactionaries respectively. Pure varieties of all these items are not practically available anywhere in the district.

Even a gram of pure variety of mustard oil, soyabean and coconut oil of which the prices have registered an abnormal rise cannot be traced and procured.

It is apprehended that due to the consumption of adulterated foodstuff particularly ghee, daida mustard oil, soyabean and sweetmeats various kinds of intestinal diseases are breaking out in the district. The abnormal price rise of the various items of daily essentials is believed to be the main reason this is giving impetus to the dishonest traders in adulteration.

So far milk is concerned, either water is mixed with pure milk or milk is prepared with lower categories of powder milk and those are selling in the open market freely.

In such manner all the above mentioned food stuff and edible oil are being adulterated throughout the District openly and freely and there is none to see it.

The concerned sanitary department is quite silent to tackle the abnormal situation.

Indian insecticides cause adverse effects on crops

From Our Correspondent

DINAJPUR, June 29: Smuggled Indian insecticides are causing adverse effects on the crops and land all over three northern districts of Panchagarh, Thakurgaon and Dinajpur.

According to dependable sources, a section of smugglers under the guidance of some influential persons is selling the smuggled insecticides in the markets of border belts of the districts at cheaper rates compared to the local insecticides.

Thiodine-3 insecticide abundantly available in Bangladesh markets has great demands among the farmers due to its cheap price and strong action.

According to the report, these insecticides are killing all types of insects even those which are useful for land fertility. The poultry birds have also become victims of these insecticides.

Market sources said that cultivators are purchasing these insecticides as the Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC) is unable to ensure adequate supply and good quality insecticides at reasonable prices in the open markets. The imported insecticides are sold at high prices which is found to be adulterated before sale.

According to the agricultural experts, due to extensive use of Indian insecticides yields of paddy have been declined reducing the fertility to a great extent in these districts.

Massive campaign against these insecticides should be launched all over the country explaining the adverse effects on the crops and land, it is felt.

Acute shortage of fodder has been prevailing throughout the districts of Panchagarh, Thakurgaon and Dinajpur specially in the haor areas reducing the domestic animals to skin and bones.

It is learnt that the acute shortage of fodder is prevailing due to large scale damage of straw by excessive and incessant rain during the last Boro harvesting season in 1993.

Cultivators in these districts used to preserve the year's stock of straw from the Boro harvest but during the last year it was not possible on account of incessant rain.

Cultivators are unable to feed their cattle regularly. Moreover, traditional grazing fields have been turned into agricultural lands in all the 23 thanas of these districts without any consideration for fodder.

According to the farmers, fresh grass for milching cows is not available in the rural areas because most lands are being brought under cultivation with the introduction of mechanised system. Crop pattern has also been changed. Prices of oil cakes, husk, bran and other varieties of fodder have increased. As a result, a large number of cattleheads throughout the districts has already been reduced to skin and bone. Besides, large number of cattleheads has fallen prey to various diseases due to constant starvation.

Many cultivators are selling off their cattle at nominal rates as they are unable to feed them.

District roundup

BANCHHARAMPUR

People getting benefits of development

June 29: Communications Minister Oli Ahmed said, the people had started reaping the benefit of allround development work carried out by the present government, reports UNB.

He said, we worked in every sector to deliver goods to the people but in the field of communication, specially in the road communication we are working hard and ceaselessly to bring about a radical change.

The minister was addressing a gathering here, Saturday evening after inaugurating the new office of the Roads and Highways Department at Banchharampur, one of the remote thanas of the country, accessible only till to-date by reinvert transports.

Oli asked the engineers and officials of roads and highways department to stick to honesty and sincerity in dispensation of the services they were ought to render.

Local MP ATM Wali Ashraf was also present on the occasion.

Government during a short span of a little over three years, had constructed about 15 kms of pacca road on an average in each of thanas of the country, Oli informed.

TANGAIL

11 killed in road mishap

June 29: Eleven persons including two women were killed and six others were injured in a road accident on Friday at Sabulla on Dhaka-Tangail highway, reports BSS.

The accident occurred when a cement loaded truck fell in a road side ditch.

These people were coming from Dhaka to Tangail injured persons were treated in Kumudini Hospital. A case was registered in Mirzapur Thana.

COMILLA

Smuggled goods worth Tk 20 lakh seized

June 29: The BDR jawans arrested 14 alleged smugglers and seized smuggled Indian goods worth about Taka 20.14 lakh from the frontier areas in the last 15 days, reports UNB.

The BDR men of 29 rifle battalion in raids, seized goods and later deposited them with the Comilla customs.

The arrested persons were handed over to Kotwali thana.

In another raid, the BDR patrol jawans nabbed one Bappi Bhadra with five bottles of Indian liquor from bordering village of Gazipur on June 18.

He was also handed over to Kotwali police. Another report adds: A man was killed on the spot and another was seriously injured when a speeding truck lost control and rammed two rickshaws parked on the road side on Comilla by-pass on Sunday.

The identity of the victim, a rickshawpuller, could not be known while the injured person was rushed to Comilla General Hospital.

Driver of the truck fled the scene with his vehicle. A case has been filed with the local police.

COX'S BAZAR

Tornado kills minor boy

June 29: A three-year-old boy was killed and 45 people were injured when a tornado hit two villages in Ukhaia recently, reports UNB.

The tornado with speed estimated by local people to be about 200 kilometre per hour also destroyed some 130 houses completely and more than 160 houses partially in Monakhali and Anjumanpara villages.

Abdul Huq, son of Mohammad Hossain of Anjumanpara village, was killed in house collapse while six others of his family were injured.

Mohammad Hossain, who received head injury, was admitted to IRRO Hospital at Ukhaia along with Sakhina Khatun (30), Abdun Nabi (14), Karim Ali (28) and Abdul Jabbar (18). Another 15 injured of Anjumanpara village were admitted at Ukhaia health complex.

NAOGAON

Govt criticised for failing to maintain law and order

June 29: Jatiya Party Badaighara thana unit held a meeting at the local high school premises last week, reports UNB.

Badaighachi thana JP President, Oli Ahmed Rumi presided over the meeting. Acting Chairman of Central Jatiya Party Mizanur Rahman Choudhury was present as chief guest.

Chowdhury criticised the government for failing to maintain law and order situation in the country and resolving the problem of Farraka barrage.

He said the northern region has turned into a desert due to the Farraka effect as the issue is yet to be solved. He also criticised the government for its failure to attain a permanent solution of Rohingya refugees.

Mizan demanded release of deposed president Ershad immediately and holding of free and fair election under a caretaker government.

Former food minister, Sardar Amjad Hossain, former health minister Dr Azizur Rahman, central JP leader Begum Amena Bari, Naogaon district JP president and former MP AKM Murshed, Advocate Abdur Razzak, Feroza Zaman, Rabeya Khatun and others spoke on the occasion.

NILPHAMARI

Minister visits power plant

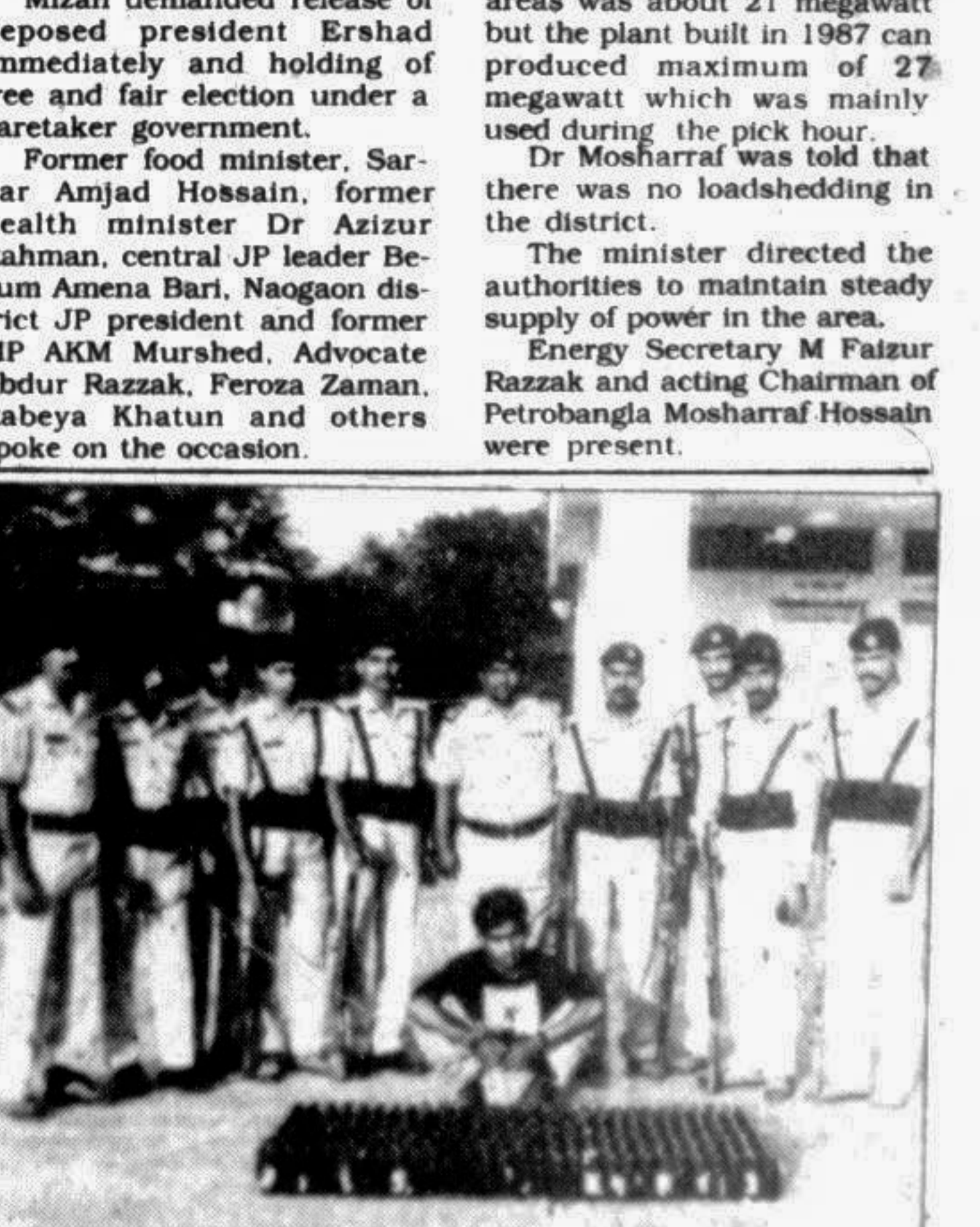
June 29: Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain recently visited the 20-megawatt diesel power plant here, reports BSS.

The minister was informed that the demand for electricity in Nilphamari and surrounding areas was about 21 megawatt but the plant built in 1987 can produce maximum of 27 megawatt which was mainly used during the pick hour.

Dr Mosharraf was told that there was no loadshedding in the district.

The minister directed the authorities to maintain steady supply of power in the area.

Energy Secretary M Faizur Razzak and acting Chairman of Petrobangla Mosharraf Hossain were present.



COMILLA: The BDR seized 398 bottles of Phensidyl syrup worth Taka 39,000 from a bus heading towards Dhaka and arrested one person recently.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Extorted colloq.

5 Hiatus

8 Pearl Mosque site

12 Hitchcock film

13 Plata's partner

4 Year-end refrain

5 Not 'far'

6 Felon's flight

7 Mirth

8 Dueller's aide

9 Dowager's pet, often

2 A Smothers brother

3 Sen. Landon

1 Senate employee

7 Fixes firmly

1 Author Umberto

Recent addition?

Box-office sign

Haphazardly

Obsessed seaman

39 Conk out

40 Accomplished

42 Talk on and on

45 Just say no

49 Gen. Robert

50 Baton Rouge sch.

52 Gen. Bradley

53 Count's counterpart

54 - Alamos

55 Hungarian premier

56 Predetermines

57 Penitent's smudge

11 Sheltered

19 Villain-Solution time: 23 mins.

DOWN

1 Corsetiere's wares

2 Theater box

3 Grand-scale

4 Signify

5 Source of wealth

6 Altar constellation

7 Splendor

8 Luanda's land

9 Aquarium favorite

10 Tackle-box item

11 Sheltered

19 Villain-Solution time: 23 mins.

21 "Concentration" conjunction?

24 Energy

25 Top-rated

26 Cartoonist

28 - Blu Dipinto di Blu

29 Chaplin film, with "The"

30 Gun-lobby org.

31 - story

36 Damages a reputation

37 Singer Torme

38 Abut

41 That is: abbr.

42 Heady quaff

43 Jai follower

44 Scat specialist

46 TV statuette

47 Concern

48 Waste allowance

51 Distress signal

HELPER ERN ADAM
EVIL BOO LEMA
REMEMBER ACES
DRONE MOMENT
TAFT MOM
INKY LATE BAD
WEA KAREN EGO
OWL ANTS CROW
EAR SHAH
GAMBLE BOOST
ABBY NOVEMBER
TIES DUE PITA
HERS SIX SEAM

Yesterday's answer 10-28

CRYPTOQUIP

N P S Z W I F C N M E J F

I N H H L H H Z C M Z V E W
R L L H M F L A I F J L S W Z
O Z Z R N A P W O N M W

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: AFTER MY DENTIST'S MINOR AUTO ACCIDENT, INSURANCE ASSESSOR SAID, "IS THIS DENT YOURS?"

Today's Cryptoquip clue: I equals M

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.