

Notes from Satkhira

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, Aug 5: About sixty thousand in seven thanas of the district have been suffering from the skin diseases and blindness. Children between the age group of five and nine years are the worst sufferers.

According to the local doctors, vitamin deficiency, malnutrition and lack of medicare facilities are the main cause of the diseases.

The health officials opined that motivation about primary health care and use of green vegetables and small fish are needed to meet the vitamin deficiency.

Life term for dacoity

Alauddin Sardar, District and Session Judge Satkhira found Moktar Ali Mollah, Mahim, Rajab, Majid, Jalil Mollah, Akbar Ali and Nazrul Islam guilty for committing dacoity and murder and sentenced them to suffer life term imprisonment and to pay fine of Tk 5000 each in default RI for one year more recently.

The prosecution story in brief is that the said accused armed with deadly weapons entered into houses of Samir Kumar and Mahbubur Rahman both of village Saihati under Kaligonj thana on March 15, 1988 and while decamping with valuables worth about Tk 72,000, one Abdul Bari (24) of the same village resisted the dacoits.

The dacoits hit him with the axe on his head and he died on the spot. A case was lodged with Kaligonj thana and after the investigation police submitted charge-sheet against them. The learned judge tried the case and after examining the witnesses, found them guilty and awarded above punishment. Mr. Golam Muhammad PP conducted the case on behalf of the state.

Law, order situation

The overall law and order situation of the district has been deteriorated during the recent days.

Local elite said, dacoity, theft, hijacking, killing and other crimes are increasing day by day causing grave concern among the local peace loving people. Recently, four members of an outlawed Purbia Bangla Sarbahara Party shot dead by the members of another outlawed Biplobi Communist Party at Atarai village under Tala police station of the district.

The victims are identified as Nazrul, Haroon, Salam and Habib who are belonging to the members of the Purbia Bangla Sarbahara Party led by the victim Nazrul.

It is reported that the members of the outlawed Biplobi Communist Party led by Barun opened fired on them for taking influence in the area in broad day light. As a result they died on the spot. One Pranab Kumar, a school teacher and Nasiruddin of the same thana were also killed by the miscreants a few month ago.

Eye camp held

A weeklong eye camp under the joint auspices of Rotary and Rotaract Club Satkhira, Rotary Club of Ramna and Inner Wheel Club of Ramna, Dhaka was held at Satkhira Auditorium recently.

The eye camp was inaugurated by Dr M R Khan renowned child-specialist home and abroad.

A total of 800 eye patients have been enrolled for Cataract operation and treatment. Of them 40 patients were operated upon and 760 patients were given prescription and medicines.

One dies by snake bite

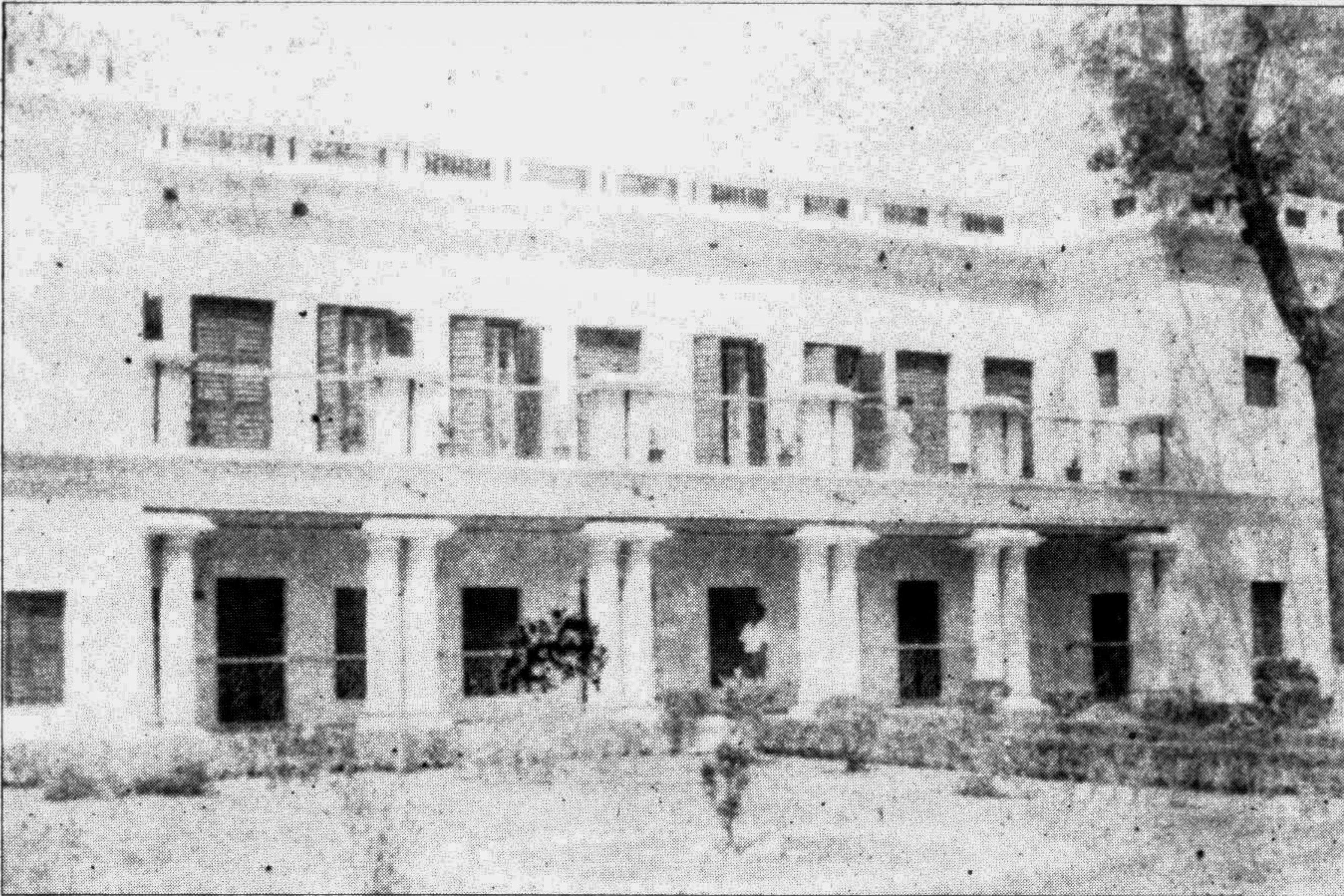
One snake charmer Golam Rasul (40) died by snake bite recently.

It is reported that Golam Rasul while selling medicine and 'tabir' showing snake's play at Kaligonj bus stand on the day of occurrence and at one stage a poisonous snake bite his right hand. Later he left the place and returned to his native home where he expired.

Wheat sanctioned for development projects in Barisal

BARISAL, Aug 5: Government has sanctioned 71,52,125 kilograms of wheat for the implementation of various development projects in Barisal district during the current fiscal year, reports BSS.

According to district relief and rehabilitation office sources of the total 20,87,000 kilograms of wheat will be used for the development works under Food-for-Works Programme, 5,28,000 kilograms under test relief programme and 45,37,125 kilograms will be distributed among 12,099 destitute families under Vulnerable Group Development (VGD) programme.



SIRAJGANJ: View of Poet Tagore's Kuthbari at Shahzadpur.

— Star photo

New college at Begumganj Thana

MAIJDEE Court, Aug 5: A new non-government college has been established at Nadia Para village in Begumganj Thana in Noakhali district recently, reports UNB.

This is the 4th private college established in the thana. The admission to the college will begin from the current session. It will introduce arts, science and commerce section, it is learnt.

An executive committee for the college has been formed with ABM Harun-ur Rashid Basher, a renowned social worker of the locality as its convener. The college authorities has appointed Amanatullah, the retired Principal of Government Women College as the principal of the college.

Another report says: A gang of armed dacoits raided two houses of a village in Sadar thana in Noakhali district and looted cash and valuables last week.

The robbers entered the house of one Ali Azzam of village Monpur and a gunpoint looted goods and valuables after seizing the key from the owners wife. The raid was conducted at the dead of night when it was raining heavily.

Afterwards, they raided the house of Rajamia in the same village and decamped with assets and cash.

Two killed, 10 seriously hurt in robbery incidents

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, Aug 5: Two persons were killed and ten others received injuries in two separate robbery incidents at Fulchhari and Palasbari thanas during the last two weeks.

In the first incident, a gang of dacoits armed with deadly weapons raided the house of one, Abdul Jalil Sarker, 90, of village Kanchipara under Fulchhari Thana at dead of night recently. The miscreants took away valuables including one SRBL gun. Later they torture the house-owner in which the victim received critical injuries who was later admitted to Rangpur Medical College Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.

In the second incident on July 15 a gang of armed dacoits raided the house of one, Majid Master of village Komarpur under Palasbari thana.

The miscreants beat the inmates of the house and looted away valuables worth about Tk 90 thousand. On hearing the hue and cry, local people encircled the gang in which the miscreants open fired several rounds of gun shots. During the firing a member of the miscreants was shot dead who was later identified as Pazaruddin, 35.

During the incident five others received injuries. One Shamim Kazi was admitted to Rangpur Medical College Hospital in critical condition. Two separate cases were filed with respective thanas.

Over 2 lakh acres of khas land grabbed

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Aug 5: A total of 2,59,369 acres of khas land in 16 northern districts have allegedly been grabbed by the vested and influential quarters. Thus the landless families have been deprived of their rights.

It is gathered from a reliable source connected with the revenue department that out of 2,59,369 acres of land in 16 northern districts, only 52,214 acres of land have been leased out officially of which a small portion is owned by the landless farmers.

The districtwise break up of leasing shows that 3,090 acres out of 4,649 acres in Sirajganj district, 1,932 acres out of 11,143 acres in Panchagarh; 2,414 acres out of 11,903 acres in Thakurgaon, 3,323 acres out of 17,401 acres in Dinajpur, 6,576 acres out of 20,585 acres in Rangpur, 4,623 acres out of 29,561

acres in Kurigram, 4,626 acres out of 12,962 acres in Lalmonirhat, 4,412 acres out of 9,432 acres in Nilphamari.

New HYV fish produced in Jhenidah

JHENIDAH, Aug 5: A new high-yielding variety (HYV) fish "Mylopharyngodon Bicer" locally known as "Black Carp", has successfully been produced in the district's central hatchery complex at Courtchandpur, reports UNB.

Scientific Officer of the hatchery A K M Aminul Haque conducted the research on the new fish and produced some 300,000 fry for marketing on commercial basis.

The new hybrid fish, which is expected to be grown up to 70 kgs in weight, has been brought from China.

4,578 acres out of 26,920 acres in Rajshahi, 6,062 acres out of 62,354 acres in Natore, 5,432 acres out of 45,992 acres in Naogaon, 4,628 acres out of 19,832 acres in Chapainawabganj, 3,860 acres out of 15,000 acres in Pabna, 871 acres out of 20,375 acres in Bogra and 506 acres of land out of 5,649 acres of land in Jaipurhat district have been leased out.

It is further gathered that the influential quarters in collaboration with a section of unscrupulous employees of the revenue department have been grabbing the khas lands due to administrative complexity of leasing.

Knowledgeable sources have opined immediate steps to distribute the khas land among the landless farmers to ensure the 'poverty removing' scheme of the government.

Effect of Farakka Acute shortage of water even in rainy season

KAPASIA, Aug 5: Farmers are suffering from acute shortage of water for raising their produced jute even in the rainy season due to adverse effect of Farakka barrage, reports UNB.

Jute Minister ASM Hannan Shah said this while addressing the biennial conference of Jatiyatabadi Juba Dal, Kapasia thana unit, on Wednesday.

"Sufficient quantities of water are not available in the country's river canals due to adverse effect of the Farakka barrage," the minister told the conference.

Presided over by the convener of the conference committee Mohammad Abu Hanif, the function was addressed, among others, by Juba Dal President Mirza Abbas MP, former MP Dr Sanullah, Advocate Bazul Haque, Kapasia thana BNP President and General Secretary Prof Enamul Haque and Mohammad Tajul Islam respectively.

Hannan Shah said youth community must come forward to solve the national problems so that they can prepare themselves to face all kinds challenges in the future.

Mirza Abbas MP, President, Jatiyatabadi Juba Dal and former Mayor of Dhaka City Corporation addressed the conference as chief guest.

Abbas said 600 unemployed youths have been provided with self employment training in Kapasia thana and 6,000 others will be provided with the same.

He was in tears ...

FARIDPUR, Aug 5: A father of two minor children who died after taking Panamol — a paracetamol syrup — Thursday demanded stern action against the manufacturers of the drug, reports UNB.

At a press conference at the office of the local journalists association, Fazal Sikdar of village Shovarampur in Sadar thana said, his son Naem, 2, and daughter Rumi, 4, died as a result of taking Panamol that damaged their kidneys.

The drug were prescribed for the children who had been suffering from viral fever by a village quack and purchased from a local shop.

The children had been shifted to Dhaka Shishu Hospital when their condition deteriorated but later died after being operated upon.

Local MP Advocate Mosharraf Hossain was also present at the press conference.

Fazal Sikdar said, he had deposited six bottles of Panamol syrup to the Dhaka Shishu Hospital authorities.

The drug administration in a recent order, cancelled the manufacturing licence of MS Panacea Pharmaceutical of 68/G, Hazi Afsaruddin Road, Rayer Bazar, Dhaka for production of Panamol syrup with immediate effect.

Fazal Sikdar, a mason, was in tears as he narrated the story of death of his two children. "My wife has gone mad at their deaths. We demand that the authorities take appropriate action against the manufacturers of poisonous Panamol syrup."

District roundup

RANGPUR

Two killed in road mishap

Aug 5: Two persons were killed and another seriously injured when a speeding minibus rammed into a roadside tree at Harkali near Paglapir bazar on the Rangpur-Dinajpur road on Monday, reports UNB.

The victims, Gafar, 45, and another unidentified man were travelling on the rooftop of the Rangpur bound bus when they fell from it after the minibus hit the tree at around 9 pm, police said.

The seriously injured Noor Bakt, 30, is now undergoing treatment at the Rangpur Medical College hospital.

A case has been filed with the local police.

FENI

PDB realises arrear bills worth Tk 9 cr

Aug 5: The Power Development Board (PDB) has realised arrear bills worth Tk 8.75 crore during the last fiscal year, reports UNB.

Officials said, it also disconnected 1,050 illegal connections and filed cases against 150 people during the period.

They said system loss in the district has come down to 22 per cent in the last fiscal year which was seven per cent below from the preceding fiscal.

Meanwhile, the PDB has repaired 412 km power line at a cost of Tk 5 lakh, the officials added.

Another report adds: Sixty-nine examinees were expelled from six centres of the district on the first and second day of HSC examinations for adopting unfair means.

Centrewise break up of the expelled students are: Feni College-24, Fulgazi College-7, Sonagazi College-3, Sheikh Shahid College-2, Chhagalnaiya College-2 and Pourshuram College-1.

A total of 4,170 students of the centres are appearing the examinations under Comilla Board, officials said.

MYMENSINGH

Cartoon show at BAU concludes

Aug 5: A two-day cartoon exhibition concluded here at the Students Teachers Centre of Mymensingh Agricultural University on Tuesday, reports UNB.

"Charan," a socio-cultural organisation, arranged the exhibition to uphold the spirit of liberation war and make the people aware about the growing menace of fanaticism in the country.

A total of 40 cartoons and 40 posters with quotations had been put on display.

Noted Educationist and President of Bangladesh University Teachers' Association Federation, Dr Mohammad Mansurul Amin inaugurated the show.

Muktijoddah Commander Prof Atiar Rahman, Mustafizur Rahman, Charan Convenor Abdul Ahad and its General Secretary Abdul Wadood and young cartoonists were also present.

MOULVIBAZAR

One robbed of Tk 96,000

Aug 5: Miscreants posing as police stopped a treasury chalan carrier and robbed Tk 96,200 in broad daylight on the Court Road here recently, reports UNB.

Police said, stamp vendor Chandranath Debnath was coming to deposit the money of treasury chalan of Shrimongal sub-registrar office to Sonali Bank main branch.

Suddenly, two hijackers riding a motorcycle stopped Debnath introducing themselves as police personnel for checking 'fake notes'. Later, they snatched the money and fled.

A case was lodged with sadar thana.

SIRAJGANJ

Body found in sugarcane field

Aug 5: Police recovered the body of Sarwar Hossain, 28, an activist of BNP, from a sugarcane field in Kamarkhand thana Tuesday, reports UNB.

Sarwar was missing since July 31, when he was called out by his two companions — Babu and Musa — from his house at Ariamohan in Sadar thana, police said.

Villagers of Maddhya Bhadrat in Kamarkhand found the slaughtered and chopped body at the sugarcane field and informed the police.

Sarwar was wanted in connection with two cases including the killing of BNP Kamarkhand thana president Jamat Ali in April last.

A case has been filed with the police.

NOWABGANJ

'Govt doing best to change lot of women'

Aug 5: State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Abdul Mannan Thursday said the present government has attached highest priority to the country's education sector for increasing literacy rate and removing illiteracy from society, reports BSS.

He said, to achieve these goals education sector received the highest allocation in the last three budgets.

The state minister was speaking in two separate public meetings in Nowabganj on the occasion of foundation laying ceremony of new buildings of Churni Tarini Bama High School and Charcharia Schools recently.

He said without making people educated development-oriented programmes could not be materialised. He called upon all to help implement government's development programmes to ensure the socio-economic emancipation of the common masses.

Stressing the need for female education, the state minister said an educated mother can easily educate the whole family. He said, the government is putting in its best efforts to change the lot of the women.

CHITTAGONG

Indian govt gives six crocodiles

Aug 5: Indian government has presented six marsh crocodiles of rare species on July 29 as token of friendship to Bangladesh Forest Research Institute, Chittagong (FRI), reports UNB.

The marsh crocodiles, scientifically known as 'Crocodylus Plustri' are seven years old and live in the sweet water, among them two are male and four are female.

FRI collected the crocodiles from Crocodile Bank, Madras in India but once upon a time this types of crocodiles were available in Bangladesh.

The ecological balance is being affected in the country. FRI sources said, marsh crocodiles were collected for further research to increase its production.

India and other countries of Asia are farming marsh crocodiles due to its demand in the world market. This species is being used to produce medicine and chemicals. The skin of the crocodiles is also very useful and costly.

Of the crocodiles, three will be preserved for research under Crocodile Conservation Programme and another three will be preserved at Chittagong zoo.

KUSHTIA

One killed in road mishap, two commit suicide

Aug 5: An oldman was crushed under the wheels of a speeding truck on Sunday at Mongalbaria bazar, one mile away from the town, reports UNB.

The victim, identified as Bhadu Sheikh, 90, died on the spot while he was crossing the road. Police seized the truck but the driver and the helper managed to escape.

A case has been filed with the Sadar police. Another report adds: Two people, including a woman, allegedly committed suicide in Daulatpur thana on Saturday.

The dead were identified as Shahera Khatun, 55, of Bhadalia village and Babul, 17, of Sharashatuli village.

Family sources said Shahera hanged herself as she was suffering from severe pain in the abdomen for a long time. Babul took away his life by taking poison. The reason behind his suicide could not be known immediately.

BOGRA

'Steps taken to develop socio-economic condition of women'

Aug 5: State Minister for Finance Mujibar Rahman has said the government had undertaken various steps for the socio-economic development of the women community, reports BSS.

Speaking at a seminar on "The role of women in socio-economic development" at Hazradighi Wednesday he said it was Shaheed president Ziaur Rahman who had constituted the women affairs directorate to inspire the womenfolk to participate in the nation building activities.

Later, the state minister inaugurated the vocational training project at Shibganj.

Newly constructed school buildings inaugurated

BRAHMANBARIA, Aug 5: State Minister for Disaster Management and Relief Harun-al-Rashid inaugurated the newly constructed two storeyed buildings of Medda West Government Primary School and Niaz Mohammed High School here, reports BSS.

Facilities Department constructed the primary school bhaban at a cost of Taka 15 lakh 36 thousand and the bhavan of the high school at taka eight lakhs.

He also handed over the cheques of government grant each of taka two thousand to the authorities of 21 mosques at a simple ceremony held at the conference room of the deputy commissioner's office. Addressing a public gathering

in Mashihata the state minister said, the present government has laid emphasis on primary education and women education to achieve the cherished goal of national development.

Referring to the steps taken up by the government in this regard he said, food for education, free education for women upto SSC, increase of government grants for registered private educational institutions and massive repairing programme of school bhabans are the remarkable milestones in this field.

Harun-al-Rashid called upon all to cooperate the government for continuing development activities and consolidating democracy in the country.

'Implement uplift project timely'

KAPASIA, Aug 5: Jute Minister A S M Hannan Shah Thursday urged the officials to implement government's development programmes within scheduled time properly, reports UNB.

He was addressing at the Kapasia thana Project Coordination Committee meeting held here Thursday.

A total of 65 development projects will be implemented in Kapasia thana at a cost of Tk 38 crore as well as 469 metric tons of wheat in the current fiscal year.

Hannan, Shah urged the union council chairmen who attended the meeting to ensure people's participation for implementing these development projects.

Later the Jute Minister attended the annual conference of the ex-soldiers' association of Kapasia thana as chief guest.



AGRI-VARSITY (Mymensingh): Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr Shah Mohammad Farouk presented a basket of veterinary science faculty of the Bangladesh Agriculture University to Professor Md Mozammel Haque, outgoing dean at a reception accorded to him recently.

— Star photo