

## NOTE FROM DISTRICTS

## Arrested once again!

From Our Correspondent

MOULVI BAZAR, Aug 28: After serving imprisonment for two months police has once again arrested the same accused on the same warrant recently.

It is gathered that, Jahir Ali of village Sutamara under Kamalganj Police Station was convicted in a case for two months imprisonment and was fined Taka 500 on July, 1984 by the govt.

The accused was sent to Sylhet jail immediately after the conviction order by the court on July-21, 1984.

After nine years, Kamalganj thana police again arrested Jahir Ali on July-29, 1994 on a warrant of the same case and sent him to Moulvibazar jail on July-30, 1994 for punishment.

In a written application to the court, the accused, Jahir Ali save the above mentioned information and added that he was suffering from paralysis.

## 'Such incident may take place'

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Aug 28: The night guard of Belkuchi thana Health Complex has stitched head injury of a patient recently in absence of any medical officers.

It is gathered that, Nurul Alam, 20, a resident student of Belkuchi College hostel was brought to Belkuchi thana health complex with head injury. After waiting for about two hours, as no medical officers or technicians were available, the night guard decided to stitch the injury of the patient.

When contacted, a source of the Belkuchi Health Complex said that due to 48-hours long strike of BMA, such incident may take place.

## Cruel indeed!

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, Aug 28: A nine-day-old unexpected baby was killed at village Digerderi under Palashbari thana recently.

According to report, an accused Titu of said village developed illicit relationship with Joba of the same village on a fake commitment of marrying her. Joba became expectant mother and gave birth to a baby. After nine days Joba appeared before Titu demanding recognition of their new born baby. At this Titu became furious, he snatched away the baby and killed it. Later the accused drove away Joba after beating her. Father of the Joba, Babu Mia, however, filed a case with Palashbari thana accusing Titu.

Another report adds, Palashbari thana police in a recent surprise raid arrested two counterfeit currency note makers from Palashbari highway. Police also recovered huge currency notes and equipment. Police said, accused, Saidur and Abdus Sobhan were waiting for a Dhaka bound coach at Palashbari bus stand with bag and baggage. Observing their suspicious movement police officer, Pravat Kumar challenged them. On searching police recovered 85 pieces of 500 Taka denomination counterfeit notes, huge quantities of white paper, colour and equipment from their possession.

## Boat capsizes in Meghna, twelve missing

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, Aug 28: Twelve persons including six women have been missing when a Nabinagar bound mechanised boat capsized in the river Meghna near Bhairab river port town recently.

According to reports, the mechanised boat with 26 passengers and goods left Bhairab Bazar ghat under Kishoreganj district for Nabinagar under Brahmanbaria district capsized within few minutes when it was hit by a storm. The local people immediately after the incident rescued 14 persons from the river Meghna.

On receiving the information the local administration, including police rushed to the place but could not salvage the sunken boat from the river bed.

Among the missing two women were identified as Marium Begum (50), and Rezia Begum (25).

All the 26 passengers hailed from Nabinagar police station area of Brahmanbaria district.

## He will regret it for the rest of his life

From Our Correspondent

\*JAMALPUR, Aug 28: Rina, a young girl of age 10, was accidentally killed by her father recently.

Police sources said, AKM Based of village Darmakua in Islampur thana of the district was cleaning his Belgium made rifle in his house when suddenly a bullet from the rifle accidentally hit his daughter, Rina and Hasna Begum who were seriously injured and rushed to the Islampur thana hospital. The same day the doctor of the hospital referred the patients to be taken to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital.

Later Rina died next morning at Mymensingh Medical College Hospital largely due to bleeding.

The Additional ASP Md Anwar Hossain and OC of Islampur thana visited the spot. In this connection a case has been registered with Islampur thana under section no 5, 304 (4) 326.

None was arrested.

## One axed to death

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE, Aug 28: Leader of a terrorist group, Akhir Uddin Akhi (35) of Chandpara under Kotwali thana in the district, was axed to death recently while he was sitting in a doctor's chamber at Bonilla Bazar, near his house.

It is reported that, the victim was picked up from there at daggers point by a group of 10 to 15 youngmen carrying deadly weapons. They struck him indiscriminately with Chinese axes and fled away leaving the deadbody near the bazar.

Confirming the news police said that they rushed to the spot, recovered the body and sent it to Jessore General Hospital for post mortem. A case has been recorded with the thana. None was arrested.

## 21 fishermen missing in Bay

From Our Correspondent

PATUAHALI, Aug 28: Twentyone fishermen were reportedly missing when three fishing boats capsized in the Bay, 25 miles away from Gangamatirchar recently.

The fishermen were catching fish in the deep sea when a sudden hit their boats. Another boat rescued six fishermen from the Bay.

A floating body was found on the beach of Gangamatirchar next day which was identified as Dulal, 25. Fourteen fishermen were still untraced. An UD case was filed with the Kalapara police.

## Laudable example

From Our Correspondent

KURIGRAM, Aug 28: Kurigram Agriculture Extension Department has set up a laudable example by distributing saplings of trees among the best students (1st, 2nd and 3rd in all classes of all the high schools in Kurigram sadar thana) recently ceremonially.

Tarik Hasan, Deputy Director, Agriculture, Kurigram, in his address of welcome, urged the people to make tree plantation a social movement. He said tree plays a significant role in economic development and preservation of ecological balance. He stressed the need for creating awareness to plant more trees and protect them properly.



The first national workshop on "Disaster Management Coordination" organised by government of Bangladesh and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) concluded in Cox's Bazar recently. The Director General of the newly established Disaster Management Bureau (DMB), Akramul Islam addressing the participants on the opening day of the 5-day long workshop. Others who also spoke on the occasion were State Minister for Disaster Management and Relief, Harun al Rashid (sitting in the centre), Resident Representative of UNDP, Eimi Watanabe (sitting left) and Secretary in Charge of Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, Hafizuddin Khan (sitting right).

## Frequent loadshedding in Sirajganj

## Mills, factories incur heavy losses

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Aug 28: Frequent power disruption in Sirajganj is seriously affecting production in the mills, factories and agricultural land and causing sufferings to the domestic consumers as well.

It is gathered that power disruption has taken a serious turn in the district, specially in the thana level distribution system. Everyday loadshedding continues from dusk to about 10 pm in the thana level power distribution network of Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB). The supply system of Sirajganj Palli Biddyt Samity (PBS) is, however, satisfactory. Sirajganj Palli Biddyt Samity-1 at

Ullapara have extended power supply in the thanas of Ullapara, Raiganj, Shahzadpur, Tarash and a part of Belkuchi. The Rural Electrification Board (REB) supplies power through the Palli Biddyt Samity (BPS) under its own distribution network.

The Palli Biddyt Samity gets a quota of electricity from PDB for distribution among the consumers. The rate of supply of electricity from PBS is somehow higher than that of the PDB but the minimum charge of PBS is considerably lower than the PDB. The system loss of PBS is also negligible in comparison to that of the PDB.

The supply network of PDB in Sirajganj district is disrupted from time to time through loadshedding and sometimes by short supply from the gridline. Power supply in Sirajganj remains suspended for hours together causing sufferings to the consumers.

When contacted, a source of Sirajganj PDB office told The Daily Star that six to eight megawatt of power is supplied from the gridline against requirement of 14 megawatt of power. Such short supply causes frequent load shading, explained the source.

Our Correspondent from Satkhira says, loadshedding

has become a regular feature in Satkhira district. Hardly a day passes without loadshedding, some consumers said.

The loadshedding which was specially noticed in last two and a half months, has seriously affected the consumers.

The worst sufferers are industrial enterprises, patients in the hospitals, clinics.

Power failure in the district causes great financial losses specially to the mills and factories' owners hampering production.

On the other hand, irrigation has seriously suffered affection crop fields. It is necessary to irrigate the aman crop fields.

## BRDB disburses Tk 14.8 crore in ten thanas of Barisal district

BARISAL, Aug 28: Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB), Barisal has disbursed loans amounting to Tk 14,80,54,000 under rural co-operative scheme in ten thanas of this district since its inception in January 1989, reports BSS.

According to an official source, the loan was disbursed among 28,112 members of 1,047 different landless co-operative societies in the project areas to support self-employment programme like cattle and poultry farming, paddy husking, pisciculture handicrafts and small trades.

Meanwhile, BRDB has provided training to 8,365 members under the programme.

BRDB has also disbursed a sum of Tk. 58 lakh among 4,914 women members in the period under population control and gender development projects in Barisal sadar, Bakerganj, Agailjhara, Gournadi and Babuganj thanas of

the district for their conscious and social development, the source said.

BRDB has so far enrolled 36,827 marginal farmers through 1,358 village-based Krishi Samabaya Samities in ten thanas of Barisal district to ensure rural development through co-operatives here. These Krishi Samabaya have undertaken a programme to cultivate paddy over 24,240 acres through the use of 607 power pumps.

Besides, BRDB disbursed a sum of Tk 717 lakh under village based child development project among 1,835 members in Guthia union of Wazirpur thana till June 30 last to develop the socio-economic conditions of the rural distressed women and children, the source added.

BRDB, Barisal region, planted as many as 2,62,526 saplings of various trees under social development, activities

in this period. BRDB also provided training to 3,474 members to use developed chullis (oven) in the rural areas. Besides, BRDB brought 77 per cent of rural people under the coverage of pure drinking water, 41 per cent sanitary latrines and 93 per cent literacy programme, the source said.

Facilities Department of the Ministry of Education, Barisal region, completed the construction of eight 2-storied town primary schools in four southern districts involving an expenditure of Tk 1,28,56,000 during the last fiscal year.

The districts under the region are: Barisal, Jhalakati, Bhola and Pirojpur.

Each of these two-storied

town primary schools having five rooms costs Taka 16.07 lakh.

Of the total, three town primary schools were constructed in Barisal district involving an expenditure of Tk 48.21 lakh, two town primary schools in Pirojpur district involving an expenditure of Tk 32.14 lakh, one town primary school in Bhola involving an expenditure of Tk 16.07 lakh and two town primary schools in Jhalakati involving an expenditure of Tk 32.14 lakh, the source added.

The total of 4,000 students will get their lessons in these schools under compulsory primary education programme, the source said.

Besides, Facilities Department supplied 1,920 pair of high and low benches at a cost of Tk 30,72,000 and 48 pieces of chairs and tables at a cost of Tk 39,600 to the eight town primary schools.

## Greater coordination needed during disasters

By Naimul Haq back from Cox's Bazar

The participants in a workshop felt the need for greater co-ordination specially, among the government, non-government and donor agencies to launch operations during disasters. They also demanded revision of the draft standing orders for disasters.

The first five-day national workshop on 'Disaster Management Coordination' organised by the United Nations Development Programme, UNDP and Government of Bangladesh concluded in Cox's Bazar on Thursday. About 53 participants from government, non-government organisations, Red Crescent, Air Force, Navy, donor agencies, media and UNDP took part in the workshop.

The main concept of the workshop was to produce better co-ordination among the highest government, non-government organisations, donor agencies, Red Crescent, UNDP and other private bodies in case of any emergency during a disaster like cyclone, flood etc. New ideas were drawn from the participants through group discussions. Field trips to Maheshkhali and Teknaf (two of the recent cyclone affected areas) were arranged to analyse and explore options for future actions in case of a real

event. Valuable recommendations were made on the findings. Some of the important recommendations were awarding inhabitants of disaster prone areas about pre and post disaster activities, through holding regular lessons, building greater number of cyclone shelters, planting more trees etc. The focus of these recommendations were to reduce vulnerabilities and raise the capacities of any disasters which frequently occur in Bangladesh.

It was widely agreed during plenary discussions that a permanent solution was required to reduce risks of disasters. Poverty was identified as one of the main vulnerabilities. Poor people in general lack the knowledge of survival after a disaster. It was felt that poor people should be trained effectively to reduce the vulnerabilities first.

For better management of disasters the Disaster Management Bureau, DMB was established in May 1993, recommended by a committee. The main object of the DMB is to plan pre and post disaster actions during normal time like rescue, rehabilitations programme, relief, organise public education campaigns, etc.

## District roundup

KUSHTIA

## BNP, JCD procession

Aug 28: BNP and Chhatradal jointly organised a big procession recently demanding Kushtia as a division, implementation of Gorai Bridge scheme, Ganges Barrage and setting up of a medical college in Kushtia, reports BSS.

They paraded the main streets of the town and raised various slogans.

At the end of procession they submitted a memorandum to the deputy commissioner, Azizur Rahman, secretary BNP, Alhaj Shoharab Uddin, Shamim Arju, Firoz Aftab Uddin, Jagul Haider and M A Kamal led the delegation to handover the memorandum to the deputy commissioner.

MAGURA

## Activists of outlawed party shot dead

Aug 28: Activists of an outlawed party shot dead a man at a village in sadar thana last week, police said, reports UNB.

Golam Maula (40) of Doromothna village in the thana was shot dead by armed activists of Communist Party (Haque group) on August 18 after they took him out of the uncle's house to a nearby field.

The miscreants stormed the house of Md Ali Ahmed, uncle of Maula and Chairman of Raghobadair union on last Thursday and unable to find him there they took Maula forcibly and killed him.

Police, meanwhile, have arrested three people on charge of killing Maula.

Later, police and the village recovered the body from the field and sent it to Magura Sadar Hospital for autopsy.

A case was filed with local police in this connection.

BARISAL

## 7,90,100 cattle to be vaccinated

Aug 28: The District Livestock Department has taken up a programme to vaccinate 7,90,100 cattlehead, and 98,22,000 ducklings and chicken in ten thanas of Barisal district during the current fiscal year, reports BSS.

According to an official source, the department will distribute over 83,000 chicken of one-day old, 8,000 hens and ducks, and 20,000 eggs among the people of the district in the period.

The department will also train 5,860 persons on self-employment programme in this district.

Livestock department will perform 13,200 artificial breedings in this district in the period.

It will set up 100 farms of hybrid cows and 100 poultry farms in this district.

SIRAJGANJ

## Tk 24.14 cr sanctioned for schools

Aug 28: Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) sanctioned Tk 24.14 crore for construction and repair of 123 non-government registered primary schools in 16 northern districts in the current financial year, reports UNB.

The districts are Sirajganj, Bogra, Dinajpur, Gaibandha, Joypurhat, Kurigram, Lalmonirhat, Chapainawabganj, Naogaon, Natore, Nilphamary, Pabna, Panchagarh, Rajshahi, Rangpur and Thakurgaon.

Most of the schools were affected by recurrent floodings and cyclones in the last few years.

Official source here said with the implementation of the scheme about eight lakh children of these districts will get better education facilities.

## Shishu Niketan, a sweet home for children

From Our Correspondent

DINAJPUR, Aug 28: The orphans of Dinajpur have at least a home — a sweet home to take refuge. It is the Lions Children's Home in Dinajpur.

The home was set up in 1979 on a plot of 35 decimal of land near the Phulbari Bus Stand in the town. In the beginning, the home had only 30 girlchild inmates. From then on, only the girl children are allowed to stay in the home.

The executive body of the Shishu Niketan selects the children between the age of six and seven years. The Shishu Niketan supplies them with food and clothes, gives them education and at the same time train them up in different technical trades.

With the touch of love from the Shishu Niketan officials, the children soon find a new meaning to their uncertain life. A new self-respect grows within them. They try to be self-reliant. Presently, the number of children in the Shishu Niketan is fifty. The Shishu Niketan has also helped the grown ups to select their life partners. It has arranged the marriage of 18 inmates after they grew up. It presented them things like sewing machine, embroidery

machine and rickshaws on their wedding. The presentations help much in their conjugal life, one must admit the wise decision.

With the donations from the members of Lions Club 315, Dinajpur and other eminent persons of the locality, the club constructed a tin-shed for lodging of the children at the cost of Taka 4.5 lakh. A Canadian organisation is donating money for upbringing of six children. Previously, the organisation used to donate money for thirty children.

In Dinajpur there are some other homes for the orphans. Dinajpur Social Welfare Department runs a children's home for the boy children in Rajbati, two kilometres south from Dinajpur town. But there is only one home for the girl children in Thakurgaon district town for the greater Dinajpur region.

Recently, steps have been taken to build third floor of the Shishu Niketan. A child health centre will also be set up there. Necessary initial work have been made to build a two storied dormitory in place of the old dilapidated building. The whole project will cost about Taka 24.5 lakh.



JHENIDAH: Hundreds of acres of land in the district were devoured by the river Gorai. About 35 families in Sailkupa thana were rendered homeless in the erosion this season. Fresh areas in the district have been threatened by the river erosion.

— Star photo