

National

Poor road communication, thousands suffer everyday

From Our Correspondent

RANGPUR, Aug 31: Thousands of people of the industrially developed Haragach bandar have been facing untold sufferings for years due to absence of proper road link with Mirbagh railway station which is about five kilometres from the bandar.

There is a road in it preliminary stage in between

Trawler capsizes in Meghna

BARISAL, Aug 31: At least 10 cows drowned and eight passengers were injured in a trawler capsized in Meghna at Banimardan area of Muladi thana, reports UNB.

According to witnesses, the ill-fated trawler was coming to Muladi from Chilmari ghat with 35 passengers and 20 cows on board. The overloaded trawler suddenly capsized when it reached Banimardan.

7 thanas of Jamalpur dist

92 pc people suffer from iodine deficiency diseases

JAMALPUR, Aug 31: At least 92 per cent people of 7 thanas of the district have been suffering from iodine deficiency diseases.

Civil Surgeon of the district Dr Askar Ali told UNB that the diseases are visible among about 57 per cent of the patients.

Quoting various survey reports conducted by foreign donor agencies, NGOs and Health Directorate, the Civil Surgeon said out of 14 lakh population of the district 12.88 lakh have been suffering from iodine deficiency diseases.

Of them the number of patients whose diseases are visible is about 7 lakh.

He said iodine deficiency causes goitre (locally known as Ghag), mental and physical retardation of children, deaf and dumb and retards normal development of brain and nervous system. The deficiency may also cause abortion and make one cross-eyed.

The iodine deficiency not only affects the man but also hampers the normal growth of animal causing dwarf and reducing production of meat, egg and milk.

He said the cause of the diseases in the region was the result of washing out of iodine from the soil due to heavy rainfall and flooding.

Ninety nine per cent people

One awarded death sentence in Rangpur

From Our Correspondent

RANGPUR, Aug 31: A death sentence verdict was given in the district recently. Rajib Hossain Khan Payel was sentenced to death by hanging for murdering his ex-wife, Nasima Begum Renu, a local BNP leader.

The verdict was given by the Additional District and Sessions Judge, Shoumintra Kumar Sarkar recently. Two other accused persons, Abu Taleb Ahmed Tapan and Harunur Rashid were acquitted.

The incident of murder occurred on May 3, 1990 when Renu, divorced in 1988, entered a photo colour processing lab followed by Rajib in the evening. Rajib and Renu exchanged hot words inside the studio when at one stage Rajib stabbed Renu seriously injuring her.

The trial was conducted in abstentia of the main accused. Rajib has been absconding since the day of the murder.

Sreemongal Rly Station lacks basic amenities

From Our Correspondent

MOULVI BAZAR, Aug 31: The Sreemongal Railway Station of the district lacks basic amenities due to which people undergo numerous sufferings.

The disease can be easily cured by intaking of iodised salt. But due to lack of awareness the disease is spreading day by day, he said adding the government has also taken measures for checking it by enacting laws.

Under the law, salt manufacturers compulsorily have to mix iodine with normal salt in their factories.

But still there is acute shortage of iodised salt in the market. There are allegations that the iodised salt packet contain salt without iodine.

Confirming the allegation Deputy Civil Surgeon of the district Dr Mohammad Shahidullah said the Food Science and Technology Institute has been distributing "solution for testing of iodised salt" among the consumers free of cost for confirming the existence of iodine in their purchased salt.

Facilities are meagre in waiting rooms. There is only one small waiting room with poor accommodation, creating sufferings to the passengers.

Besides, lack of tubewells in the platform and paucity of pure drinking water pose another problem especially during the hot spell.

Moreover, railway tracks remain dirty with garbages and night-soils, which emit a bad odour all along causing health hazard to the passengers.

Besides, injection "Lipiodol" is being distributed among the people free of cost.

He said 960 field workers

all over the district are making available the solution to the people and make them aware about the usefulness of the iodised salt.

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is being distributed among the people free of cost.

Tk 17.6cr uplift

projects in progress in Chandpur

CHANDPUR, Aug 31:

Government has undertaken schemes to develop about one hundred sixty seven projects at a cost of Taka 17.61 in different areas of Chandpur during the current season, reports BSS.

Besides, government has allotted eleven hundred metric tons of wheat for the purpose. The development projects include construction, reconstruction of roads, bridges, canals, construction and reconstruction of two hundred government and private primary schools and repair of fifty government primary schools.

So far seventy per cent works of these projects have been completed. These schemes have been executed by the local government engineering department. Besides, facilities department of education ministry is implementing the development works of sixty-eight educational institutions at a cost of Tk one crore.

A good quality rice is now

selling at Tk 14.00 a kg as against Tk 13.00 a fortnight ago, *ratna balam* another variety sells at Tk 12.50 as against Tk 12.00, *jhinga shall* at Tk 13.00 as against Tk 12.00, *parjam* at Tk 13.00 as against Tk 12.00, *bashabo* at Tk 15.00 as against Tk 14.00 local *tri* at Tk 11.50 as against Tk 10.50 and local *aus* at Tk 11.50 as against Tk 11.00.

Moog pulse is selling at Tk 30.00 a kg as against Tk 28.00, *musur* sells at Tk 26.00 as against Tk 24.00, *chhola* at Tk 28.00 as against Tk 22.00, *mashkhalai* at Tk 28.00 as against Tk 18.00.

Ato is selling at Tk 10.00 as against Tk 9.00, *flour* at Tk 13.00 as against Tk 13.50.

Mustard oil is selling at Tk 56.00 a kg as against Tk 53.00, *Soyabean* oil at Tk 52.00 as against Tk 48.00, *coconut* oil at Tk 100.00 as against Tk 95.00, *palm* oil at Tk 42.00 as against Tk 40.00.

Prices of essentials up in Faridpur

From Our Correspondent

FARIDPUR, Aug 31: The prices of different items essential commodities are rising up every day to the great inconvenience of consumers particularly the fixed income groups. A survey shows that the prices of each items of essential articles in different markets of the district have gone up by ten per cent on the average during the last fortnight.

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The iodine deficiency not only affects the man but also hampers the normal growth of animal causing dwarf and reducing production of meat, egg and milk.

He said the cause of the diseases in the region was the result of washing out of iodine from the soil due to heavy rainfall and flooding.

Ninety nine per cent people

of Jhogara union in Melandha thana have been suffering from goitre. Researchers from across the world came to the village to study the disease, he said.

The disease can be easily cured by intaking of iodised salt. But due to lack of awareness the disease is spreading day by day, he said adding the government has also taken measures for checking it by enacting laws.

Under the law, salt manufacturers compulsorily have to mix iodine with normal salt in their factories.

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96,000 families of Magura dist to get electricity

MAGURA, Aug 31:

Agriculture and Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control Minister Maj Gen (rtd) M Majid-ul-Haq Sunday inaugurated the rural electrification programme in Magura district, reports UNB.

A total of 96,000 families of 740 villages in four thanas of the district will get electricity under the Palli Bidyut programme.

About Tk 43 crore has

been allocated this