

12 killed in road accidents

At least 12 people were killed in separate road accidents across the country in the last three days, reports UNB.

Five people were killed in Rangpur, four in Narasingdi, two in Sirajganj and one in Faridpur.

In Rangpur, at least five people were killed and about 40 others injured when a Dhaka-Thakurgaon bus rammed against a roadside tree at Balabarihat in Taraganj thana Wednesday.

Fire brigade sources said identity of the dead, most of whom were on the rooftop of the bus and violently hit by the tree branches, could not be known immediately.

The bus was badly damaged in the collision with the tree. The sources said the accident occurred at about 2:30 pm as the driver of the bus of 'Keya Paribahan' lost control after a tire burst.

Four of the injured passengers were shifted to Rangpur Medical College Hospital as their condition was stated critical and the rest admitted to Taraganj Health Complex.

In Narasingdi, three people and a cow they bought for sacrifice were all killed when a speeding truck ran over them on Dhaka-Sylhet highway Wednesday, reports UNB.

The dead were identified as Shah Alam, 32, Abdul Awal, 30, and Asad 28.

Police said they died instantly as the truck hit them while crossing the road with the cow in Shibpur area at about 1:30 am.

In another accident on the highway, a minor boy was hit and killed by a Dhaka-bound minibus at Shaheprota village in the district.

In Sirajganj, two people were killed in a road mishap at Shaheganj Raiganj thana on Bogra-Nagarbari highway Saturday morning.

Police and witnesses said that a Bogra-bound truck from Nagarbari fell into a ditch at 6 am when the driver lost its control. The driver of the truck Rustam, 35, died on the spot while the helper succumbed at the Raiganj Health Complex.

Police seized the truck and a case has been filed in this connection.

Meanwhile, on Eid day, Harmuj Ali, 60, a day labourer of Bhuapur in Tangail district died on the spot when the truck he was on board met an accident at Talam on Tarash-Bhuiyagati road of the district.

Police seized the truck but the driver managed to flee the scene. In Faridpur, a pedestrian was killed and three passengers were injured in a road accident at Majikandi in Modhukhali thana on Faridpur-Khulna highway on Saturday morning, reports UNB.

Witnesses said, a Dhaka bound micro-bus ran over the victim at about 9 am and plunged into a roadside ditch. The unidentified man aged about 45 died on the spot.

The injured micro-bus passengers including the driver were rushed to the Faridpur General Hospital.

Madaripur launch terminals in poor shape

MADARIPUR, May 13: Terminals in most of the launch ghats in Madaripur and Shariatpur districts are in deplorable condition causing much inconvenience to the passengers, says UNB.

According to passengers, the existing launch terminals are beset with various problems including want of sitting arrangement, toilet and dilapidated condition of the sheds.

The finished sheds of the terminals and railings in the enclosure are in bad shape reconstruction of which was long due. These terminals were damaged during the devastating cyclone in April 1991.

Passengers said, during the rainy season, rain water pour into the sheds causing sufferings to the waiting passengers.

Besides, the passengers are to wait sometimes for hours together to reach their destinations and in the absence of adequate sitting arrangement they are to loiter around the terminals. Women and children are the worst sufferers.

The passengers alleged that the terminals remain dirty all the time in the absence of maintenance and care. Garbages are dumped in scattered manner vitiating the atmosphere.

They have urged the concerned authorities to take immediate measures to modernise these terminals.



SYLHET: The Greater Sylhet Ganadabi Parishad staged a sit-in in front of DC's office protesting the construction of Barak Dam in Assam recently. — Star photo

3 die in stampede while collecting Zakat cloths

KHULNA, May 13: A poor mother and her daughter and another person died in a stampede while several thousand people were scrambling for charity clothes at a businessman's house here on Wednesday, reports UNB.

Witnesses said Amina, 45, her daughter Hosne Ara, 25, and another unidentified person collapsed and died amidst a huge crowd at the residence of Wazed, a renowned shrimp trader of the city, at around 8:30 am.

There had been a rush of alms-seeker at Wazed's residence for the last two days like previous years to collect 'Zakat' cloths on the occasion of Eid. About five thousand people thronged there Wednesday. Wazed said the victims fell sick due to the overcrowding and later died at their homes.

After the incident, distribution of clothes continued till 5 pm under police protection.

Two killed in Chuadanga clash

From Our Correspondent

CHUADANGA, May 13: Two people were killed and seven others injured in a clash between two groups at village Ibrahimpur on Thursday.

The dead were identified as Monwar Hossain Mantu, 35, and Rahim, 32. The clash occurred when Rahim with his group equipped with arms attacked Mantu at around 10:30 am. They also exploded several cocktails.

Mantu was rushed to the Chuadanga Sadar Hospital with severe injuries. He died there at around 5 pm.

The angry villagers caught hold of Rahim and beat him up. He was admitted to the Sadar hospital with severe injuries where he died.

Police arrested one with a gun in this connection. Two cases have been filed.

Fishermen using current nets despite ban

From Our Correspondent

CHUADANGA, May 13: Indiscriminate catching of fish fry by current nets has been threatening fish production in the district, reports UNB.

According to local people, a section of fishermen defying the government ban are catching fish fry in the ponds, beels, canals and rivers.

The District Fisheries Department expressing grave concern over the rampant use of current nets said fish output will decrease abnormally if adequate measures are not taken to implement the government restriction on catching fry below nine inches.

They called upon the district administration to do the needful to save the fish population of the district.

Local people alleged that the mobile courts cannot function properly to seize the current nets due to shortage of magistrates.

Last year, 155 current nets were seized in the district.

There are about 8,000 ponds, beels, canals, rivers and their tributaries scattered all over the district but most of them are derelict due to lack of proper care and maintenance. It is learnt.

Body of young boy recovered

CHITTAGONG, May 13:

Police recovered the body of a young boy from a drain near the central railway building in Double Mooring thana on Sunday, reports UNB.

The victim was identified as Mizanur Rahman Mizan, 18, who was allegedly kidnapped from Ice Factory Road in the city on Saturday evening.

A case was filed with the local police.

Load-shedding hits production in Kushtia

From Our Correspondent

KUSHTIA, May 13: Frequent power failure and load-shedding have been causing untold sufferings to the town-dwellers everyday.

Production in the mills and factories is severely hampered due to long hours of load-shedding from morning till mid-night.

The students and business establishments are the worst sufferers of the frequent load-shedding.

Irrigation is also hampered during the dry season. It is necessary to irrigate the boro and IRR1 fields for a good harvest.

But due to the frequent power failure and load-shedding the deep and shallow tube-wells are not functioning properly.

The SSC examinees are the worst sufferers. Most of the

streets, lanes and by-lanes of the town plunge into darkness resulting in rise of anti-social activities.

When contacted, a PDB official said that severe rationing of electricity from the upper level compelled them to go for shut down. Only nine megawatt power have been allocated for Kushtia in place of required 22 megawatts, the official said, adding they have nothing to do in this regard.

Meanwhile, heat wave have been sweeping over Kushtia. Temperature ranged between 40° to 42° degree Celsius during the last few days.

One rickshawpuller Md. Yasin said that his income has come down due to heat wave because most of the people are not coming out of their houses due to hot weather.

Pottery industry faces extinction

From Our Correspondent

CHUADANGA, May 13: Pottery, a traditional cottage industry in Chuadanga district is on the verge of extinction.

Hundreds of families in different areas of four thanas of Chuadanga district have been engaged in pottery industry for generations. Most of them earn their livelihood by this trade.

They produce jars, plates, cups, rural toys, nanda, malsha cooking pots and various other household articles.

Now a days, the potters face a hard time. Previously they used to collect clay free of cost, but now-a-days they have

to buy clay. Burning the raw products has also become a costly affair. Besides shortage of capital prevents them from operating in full capacity. This has made their living ever harder.

The potters have no capital to run their business. They borrow money from the rich persons in their locality or from money lenders who charge exorbitant interest.

To solve the problems of the potters, the concerned authorities should look into this age old rural industry.

Heat wave persists in CHT

From A K M Zahoorul Huq

RANGAMATI, May 13: Normal life of the people has completely been paralysed due to heat wave flowing all over the Chittagong Hill Tracts region with the deterioration of weather in absence of long-felt rainfall.

The continued hot spell of the unprecedented drought in the three hill districts of Rangamati, Khagrachhari and Bandarban including the adjacent areas has not only affected the life of human-beings but also the normal growth of IRR1-boro standing crops and various other vegetables and plants vital for the existence of men and livestock. The saplings raised by the nurseries by the forest department for planting in the coming plantation season were also damaged, the observers said.

The generation of electricity in the Karnafuli Hydro-electric Station at Kaptai is likely to be suspended, if rainfall by the end of the second week of May do not start as the water

level in the Kaptai lake and intake Channel has marginally falling. Shahidur Rahman Khan, the Project manager of Karnafuli Hydro Station said. It now produces 50 megawatt of electricity per day in the pick hour against its production capacity of 270 megawatt per hour, control room sources said.

There had been almost no rain or a scanty of rain in few parts of CHT region during the last rainy season. choras, canals, rivers, tributaries and the Kaptai lake famous for fisheries and vital for generation of electricity, became dry at the beginning of the winter. There was no rainfall for a long time, which caused a widespread damage to arable land and environment, the victims said.

Because of the persisting not spell flowing throughout the CHT region people at noon or before even do not dare to go out of their habitats except for an exigency.

Kaptai Pulpwood Div earns Tk 2.25cr revenue

From Our Correspondent

KAPTAI (Rangamati), May 13: Kaptai Pulpwood Plantation Division has earned a revenue of Taka 2.25 crore till April this year by supplying pulpwood to Karnafuli Paper Mills Ltd (KPM) exceeding the target.

A quantity of 16 lakh cubic feet (cft) of pulpwood of different types has already been supplied to KPM by April 30 this year against a target of 15 lakh cft. The extraction and supply is going on, said Alauddin Biswas, the Divisional Forest Officer of Kaptai Pulpwood Plantation Division (KPPD).

By this time KPPD earned Taka 4.25 crore supplying 38,50,000 cft of pulpwood to KPM from the beginning of extraction, the Divisional Forest Officer, (DFO) said.

Considering the shortage in availability of raw materials for manufacturing paper, the

KPPD was established in 1973-74 and raised a plantation of pulpwood on an area of 44,000 acres of land gradually in Rangamati and Bandarban on unclassified state forest land. In 1993-94, it raised 3,700 acres of plantation with both short and long rotation trees and will raise a plantation on 3,140 acres. To cover more denuded hills with soft and hard wood plantation, a requisition on acquisition of 29,000 acres of land is under process with the Deputy Commissioner of Rangamati and Bandarban hill district to cater the KPM and other sectors. Biswas said.

Working through out the year in pulpwood plantation nearly 2000 tribal labourers of both the sexes of the plantation-raising areas have been living happily as their economic security was ensured with employment opportunity. Biswas added.

4 missing as barge sinks in Meghna

BHOLA, May 13: At least 4 people were missing and property worth about Taka 50 lakh lost when a barge sank in the river Meghna caught by the whirlwind near Daulat Khan thana of the district last week, reports UNB.

According to police sources, the barge MT Moktadir bound for Chittagong from Daudkandi loaded with construction materials of a bridge was caught by the tornado and capsized in the river near Chowkighat area on May 5.

A total of 11 crew was in the barge.

Dacoits loot 25 houses, kill one in Kushtia

KUSHTIA, May 13: Dacoits killed a man and looted valuables from 25 houses at a village in Bheramara thana Sunday night, police said, reports UNB.

They said a gang of dacoits numbering around 30 to 40 attacked the houses at Dalua village shortly after midnight. Kalu Biswas, 38, was shot dead at his house when he raised hue and cry. His body was sent to the General Hospital for postmortem.

A case was filed with Bheramara thana in this connection.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Ministry of Finance

Economic Relations Division, (IDA TA Cell Project)
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka

No. ERD/WB-1/TA-6/Airconditioners/22/94-95/405 Dated: 3.5.95

Corrigendum to Tender Notice

In partial modification of the tender notice dated 24.4.95 for purchase of AIRCONDITIONERS for the above project (which was published, among other newspapers, in the Daily Dainik Bangla on 27.4.95, it is notified for information of all concerned that since Govt. Offices will remain closed on 14.5.95 due to Buddha Purnima, the tenders shall be accepted upto 12.00 Noon on 15.5.95 and shall be opened at 12.30 PM on the same day in presence of the representatives, if any, of the tenderers. All other terms and conditions as mentioned in the tender notice dated 24.4.95 shall remain unchanged.

Md. Shah Jahan
Deputy Secretary
and
Project Director

DEP-11415-6/5
G-740

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer
Public Works Department, Satkhira

Auction Notice No.13 of 1994-95

Sealed quotations are invited from interested persons/firms for auction sale through quotation of various grade bats lying at the brick field and flat bar & other construction material lying at office premise/godown of Satkhira Public Works Department (as it is where it is basis). Quotations will be received by the undersigned and all Executive Engineers under Public Works Directorate Circle, Khulna upto 12.00 Noon of 25.5.95 and will be opened on the same day at 12.15 minutes before the tenderers (if any) present. Quotation form will be sold upto 25.5.95 during office hours. 2% (two per cent) of the quoted amount should be submitted as earnest money in the form of Bank Draft in favour of the undersigned.

Rest of the information may be collected from the undersigned & the above offices during office hours.

Md Shamsur Rahman
Executive Engineer
Public Works Department
Satkhira
Phone No.3657

D&P-11429-6/5
G-738

Government of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD
Road Division, Patuakhali

Invited Tender Notice with Sealed Cover from Bangladesh Form No. 2911.

Tender No. PRD 34/1994-95.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Eligibility of contractors of RHD	Time allowed from the date of order	Date of last selling	Last date & time of receipt (with sealed)	Last date & time of opening	Name of Offices availability of tender document	Name of Officers to receiving of bids
1	Construction of brick pavement work (HBB) at 16th KM and 17th KM of Chandukhali-Subidkhal-Kathali-Kanai-Bakerganj Road under Patuakhali Road Division during the year 1994-95.	Tk. 19,80,466/-	Tk. 39210/-	'A' to 'C' (General) Category	90 days	17.5.95	18.5.95 up to 12-30 PM	22.5.95 up to 11-00 AM	Executive Engineer, RHD, Planning Division (Road & Bridge), Dhaka/ Planning & Design Division, Barisal/ Road Division, Barisal/ Bhola/Peropurthe undersigned and all Sub-Divisional Engineers RHD under Patuakhali Road Division.	1) Additional Chief Engineer, RHD, Barisal Zone, Barisal. 2) Superintending Engineer, RHD, Barisal Circle. 3) Superintending Engineer, RHD, Monitoring & Evaluation Circle (Road & Bridge) Dhaka. 4) The Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division Barisal/ Bhola/Peropurthe.
2	Construction of brick pavement HBB work at 2nd KM of Patuakhali-Kalaya Road under Patuakhali Road Division during the year 1994-95.	Tk. 10,13,648/-	Tk. 20,273/-	'A' to 'D' (General) category	45 days	-00-	-00-	-00-	-00-	-00-

D&P-11485-6/5
G-739

A K M Reazul Islam
Executive Engineer, RHD,
Road Division, Patuakhali.

Severe drought, attack of disease

40pc saplings planted in Sirajganj about to die

SIRAJGANJ, May 13: A considerable number of trees and planted saplings of the Forest Department have been drying up. In this stage, the tops of the trees first dry up and then they die.

So far, 40 per cent of the trees and planted saplings in different government and public places and by the side of highways have dried up.

It is learnt that the Forest Department supplied 27,32,000 saplings of different varieties including fruit bearing and wood trees in 1994 as a part of their plantation programme in Sirajganj district. The district administration also took up a scheme to plant one crore of saplings in nine thanas which include 8,32,000 in Sirajganj Sadar, 21,32,000 in Kaziapur, 2,11,000 in Belkuchi, 3,09,000 in Tarash, 1,90,000 in Chowdhali, 1,95,000 in Raiganj, 2,05,000 in Kamarkhanda, 2,18,000 in Shahzadpur and 1,90,000 in Ullapara thana. Out of the total, 1,94,000 saplings were planted by the side of Jamuna river and 28-kilometer highway.

Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) planted 1,03,000 saplings on fallow land and 31,000 were planted in the premises of the offices and educational institutions. The Forest Department also distributed 4,66,000 saplings among the public. The Chairman and member of the Union Parishads were directed to look after the saplings in the concerned union areas. But after plantation, 25 per cent of the saplings were damaged in absence of watering and by the cattleheads.

Besides, a large number of

From Our Correspondent

trees were damaged by 'Agamara' disease. A source of Forest Department told that 'Agamara' disease is the cause of death of huge number of plants and trees. The BWDB sources said

that due to fall in underground water level, the plants can not collect food and subsequently dry up. The adverse affect of Farakka is also responsible for such damage of trees and plants.



SIRAJGANJ: The trees on Sirajganj-Bogra road at Chandidashganti are drying up. — Star photo

Shahzadpur — a prospective tourist spot

From Our Correspondent

the recent years. The Dhaka-Dinajpur highway passes through Shahzadpur.

The Mazar of Hazrat Makhdum 'Shah Doula Shaheed (R) and Kuthibari of poet Rabintra Nath Tagore are the places of historic importance and the both projects are now under the supervision of Archaeological Department of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs. On different occasions, thousands of people come to Shahzadpur, specially at the time of Urs of Shah Makhdum (R) and the birth and death anniversary of poet Rabintra Nath Tagore.

Shahzadpur thana is also famous for handloom oriented cottage industries. High quality handloom products including shari, lungi, bedsheets, blouse piece, handkerchief and dhuti are produced in about 65,000 semi-automatic handlooms. This sector of industry faces setback due to smuggled clothes and abnormal price-hike of raw materials, including dyes, chemicals and cotton yarn.

But its four lakh inhabitants suffer problems due to lack of various facilities.

Medicare facilities of Shahzadpur are inadequate to

meet the need of the growing population. Only one hospital, one rural health centre, six health sub-centres and a private family planning clinic has proved to be insufficient.

Seventyfive per cent of the population depend on agriculture. Out of 58,100 acres of cultivable land, only 22,850 acres has been brought under irrigation by installing 207 diesel pumps and 21 power pumps.

The Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB) has set up 554 registered co-operative societies including one cultivator's co-operative union, 43 landless co-operative and fisheries co-operative unions. A considerable number of co-operative unions just exists in papers.

Although there are some 14 branches of different banks, people allege that they are not given any kind of loan. A vested quarter is the only beneficiary of the financing facilities, they added.

Shahzadpur thana may play a vital role in the national economy if steps are taken to boost up the productive sectors.