

Acute shortage of one taka coins in Magura

MAGURA, Sept 15: Shopkeepers and buyers of the district are facing acute problem in transaction of money due to shortage of one taka coin, reports UNB. Local people said, the problem mounted as a group of dishonest people are smuggling out one-taka coin, introduced instead of one-taka note, to India. The coins are being used in making imitation ornaments and spoons. So the coins are being sold at high prices than its face value and some dishonest people are involved in the business since the introduction of the coin in the country. People face the problem when they have to pay small amount of money to the rice shawpullers and the grocers.

6142 applications for 21 posts in Pirozpur

PIROZPUR, Sept 15: A total of 6,142 applications have been submitted for only 21 vacant posts of assistant primary school teachers in the district, reports UNB. The number of vacant posts in five thanas are: Kauhali-2, Nazirpur-5, Bhandaria-3, Nesarabad-7 and Sadar-4. Official sources said no new posts were created in the district since 1973. As a result, primary education is being hampered due to shortage of teacher. There are 606 government primary schools and 297 registered primary schools in the district.

Huge Indian electronic goods recovered

From Our Correspondent. SATKHIRA, Sept 15: The BDR of Jhowdanga special out-post under 21 Rifles Battalion recovered huge Indian electronic goods amounting to Taka about 16 lakh from village Mahishkura under Kalaroa thana recently. According to local BDR sources, acting on a secret information BDR personnel led by Subedar Bashir Mia of Jhowdanga Special out-post challenged the three carriers who were carrying the electronic goods on head load at the place of occurrence and leaving the goods, they managed to escape. The recovered goods worth Taka 15 lakh 86 thousand 7 hundred 15 include TV and Radio parts.

Ahsanmara Bridge to be completed soon in Sylhet

From Staff Correspondent. SYLHET, Sept 15: Construction works on the Ahsanmara Bridge on the Sylhet-Sunamganj road is nearing completion, and it is expected to be opened for vehicular traffic in November this year. Official sources informed that, about 80 per cent works on the Tk 2 crore 40 lakh project have already completed, by the Department of Roads & Highways. With the start of the bridge, there will be no ferry on the 69 kilometre Sylhet-Sunamganj road and the travel time will also be reduced by 45 minutes. It may be stated here that, Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman laid the foundation stone of the bridge about two years back.

Price of building materials up in Bhola

BHOLA, Sept 15: Construction work is being hampered seriously in the district following sharp rise in prices of construction materials, reports UNB. Prices of rod, cement, sand, CI sheet and bamboo have shot up recently in different markets of the district. Market sources said, country made cement is being sold have at Tk 250 and 260 per bag instead of its actual price of Tk 200-210. A cement trader said government has increased the price of locally produced cement. As a result, price of imported cement have also shot up. It is alleged that a section of dishonest traders taking the advantage stored a huge quantity of cement creating artificial crisis in the market to earn windfall profit. Besides, they are selling adulterated and low quality cement at high rate. Due to price hike of bamboo and other construction materials, the low income group of people cannot build or repair their houses. Development works are also being hampered.



MYMENSINGH: A colourful procession brought out in the town by Gono Shakhrota Journalist Forum in observance of International Literacy Day. — Star photo

5 killed, 17 injured in separate road accidents in Moulvibazar

From Our Correspondent. MOULVI BAZAR, Sept 15: Five persons were killed and another 17 were injured in separate road accidents in Moulvibazar district during the month of August last. Police source said, a motor-cycle rider was killed and his co-passenger was injured in an accident which has taken place on August 29. The victim Khalilur Rahmani 37, an activist of Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal, Rajnagar thana unit of the district was killed on the spot when a truck (Moulvibazar Ta 163) dashed his motor-cycle. The accident occurred on Moulvibazar-Kulaura road near Brahman Bazar Mission Hospital. Tazal Ali, co-passenger of the motor-cycle was admitted to Mission hospital. The driver fled with the truck. A case has been filed with the police. In another accident, five people were injured when a Dhaka bound bus of Taj Paribahan ran over them at Beri turning of Moulvibazar town, on August 27. All the

injured were rushed to Moulvibazar sadar hospital. The driver of the bus fled but the bus was seized by the police. Nantu Sutradhar, (8), son of Nogendra Sutradhar of north Bharaura under Srimongal thana was killed under the wheels of a speeding truck (No-5152) of the Roads and Highways Department of Moulvibazar at Azmeer Flour Mill of Srimongal town. Witnesses said, while Nantu was passing the road on foot in the evening of August 17, the truck hit him. He died on the spot. Local people caught the driver along with his truck and handed him over to Srimongal police. A case was registered with the police. Abdur Noor (35), Commissioner of Moulvibazar Poursahava and Joint Secretary of Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal Moulvibazar district unit, Ledu Miah, 40, a businessman of Kulaura were killed

and other two were injured in a road accident on August 14. According to police, Noor died on the spot when the driver of their Dhaka bound micro-bus lost control over the wheels and dashed against a road side three near Laskarpur Rail Crossing. Another passenger of the micro-bus Ledu Miah died on the way to the hospital. Two other passengers were admitted to Habiganj Sadar Hospital. In another incident, a girl was killed and nine others were injured on Dhaka-Moulvibazar Highway at Uttarsur area under Srimongal thana. Police said, the accident occurred on August 9, when a loaded Tempo tried to over take a truck and fell into a roadside ditch. The victim Shefa Begum, 8, died on the spot. The injured were rushed to the Moulvibazar Sadar Hospital. A case was registered with Srimongal police.

Number of fish declines in Kaptai Lake

RANGAMATI, Sept 15: Lack of awareness of the local people about pisciculture, continuous siltation, stealing of fish, corruption and lack of modern technology have caused a sharp decline in the number of fish in Kaptai lake, sources said. A large quantity of varieties fish to the tune of seven tonnes daily was being stolen from Kaptai lake during June-August, 1995, when any sorts of fishing was officially banned to enable the fish to release their spawns as well as release of fish fries in the lake. In terms of money, the cost of fish stolen out during this period would be over Taka five crore, local leaders and social workers alleged adding that this fish were sold in the market openly. The government was deprived of earning an estimated revenue of Taka 12 crore from fishing in the Kaptai lake in one year till last May 1995, sources said. At least a dozen of fishermen have been killed in the lake and its adjoining areas by the tribal insurgents since this year late May. About 50 fishermen, the highest number, were killed in 1992, two of them were kidnapped and chopped to death, sources here told The Daily Star. They fell victims to the wrath of tribal terrorists for the refusal to pay tolls. Kaptai Lake Development and Marketing Project (KLDMP) of the Fisheries Development Corporation has started fishing in the lake on a commercial basis in 1965-66 when it extracted 206 metric tons of fish. The KLDMP got the highest 4,242 metric tons of fish

in 1963-64. Last year it earned nearly 14 crore taka from sale proceeds excluding 50 per cent quota of the catch for fishermen. There are 72 species of fish including six foreign varieties and two kinds of shrimps in the lake with an area of 58,300 hectares, the highest depth being 35 meters. It is 128-kilometre long and 28-km wide. The area of the lake, created in 1961 following construction of the Karnaphuli Hydro-Electric Project, however varies from 48 thousand hectares during the dry season to 68,800 hectares in the winter. On an average, the fish production per hectare during the last few years was about 76 kilogram. The per hectare production ranges from 20 to 170 kilogram in the different countries of the world. April-May is the peak period to catch the highest quantity of fish as water of the lake recedes to the low-

est level of eight/nine meter. But the lake has been the trouble spot with the tribal insurgents extorting tolls from the fishermen. Those refusing to pay fall prey to their atrocities. This has restricted their free fishing in the lake, officials said. About 2,000 fishermen catch fish in the lake with 13 types of fishing nets. Besides, 1,000 more people are engaged in transportation, drying, marketing, trade and management. Siltation and pollution of the lake water by shifting cultivation and waste products of launches and engine boats have posed a serious threat to the pisciculture. This has also been hampering production of the Karnaphuli Hydro Station, experts of Hydro Station sources and observers said. Local leader and social workers strongly suggested adoption of adequate security measures, for the safety of the 3000 people engaged in fishing in the Kaptai lake.



RAJSHAHI: BDR recently arrested five smugglers with contraband worth about Tk 2 lakh at Mulluk Chandpur in the district. — Star photo

Lack of proper preservation of hilsha in Barisal

From Staff Correspondent. BARISAL, Sept 15: Hilsha fish are now abundantly available almost everywhere of the country at cheaper prices as the hilsha fishing season is going on. But many fish are being rotten due to the lack of ice and proper preservation in the coastal areas. There is no fish preservation centre in the vast coastal area as well as shortage of necessary ice in the southern region. Several hundred maunds of hilsha fish are wasted during the fishing season every year. Production of ice is inadequate for the huge quantity of hilsha fish caught everyday in the Bay of Bengal due to frequent disruption of electricity in Patuakhali and Barguna. There are nearly twenty ice mills in Mahipur, Alipur and Patharghata of Patuakhali and Barguna districts but the production of these ice mills are not adequate particularly for this time. Besides ice is being sold in these places at a much higher price so the fishermen cannot take ice with their trawlers to the sea. As a result many of them sometimes leaves hilsha fishes in the sea due to lack of ice and preservation system. Abundant catching of hilsha fish in the Bay already caused the price to fall in almost everywhere. Today, in Barisal, a maund of hilsha fish in sold at Taka 1400 to 1600 according to sizes and weight.

Two pipe guns recovered

From Our Correspondent. SATKHIRA, Sept 15: Satkhira thana police recovered one Indian made pipe gun including one round of cartridge from house of one Shahidul Islam of village Matiadanga under Sadar thana recently. Acting on a secret information, Satkhira sadar thana police led by C A Halim, Officer-in-Charge of Satkhira sadar thana raided the house of Shahidul Islam and recovered one Indian made pipe gun including one cartridge at dead of night on September 1 last. Police also arrested Shahidul Islam. A case was lodged with Satkhira thana. Another report adds: Assasuni thana police recovered one country-made pipe gun from the road near Dargapur Bazar under Assasuni thana on September 2 last.

Shortage of bullocks hits cultivation

From Our Correspondent. MEHERPUR, Sept 15: Acute shortage of bullocks has been prevailing throughout the district causing serious obstacle to cultivation. According to reports, 60 to 75 per cent families have no bullocks to till their lands. A vast area of land in the district remains uncultivated every year. Most of the farmers do the agricultural work on share basis as they cannot afford to purchase bullocks due to the sharp rise in prices. At present a pair of bullocks costs taka 10,000 to taka 12,000. They till their land with spades and draw the harrows themselves. Many of them even use milch cows to cultivate the land resulting the gradual reduction in the production of milk. Moreover, diseases take a heavy toll of cattle every year. According to an official source, every year a large number of cattleheads die in this district due to lack of medicines. Besides, miscreants poison cattle to death for skin at different places of the district.

Contraband worth Tk 2 lakh seized in Rajshahi

From Our Correspondent. RAJSHAHI, Sept 15: Bangladesh Rifles 14 Battalion personnels recently seized contraband worth about Taka 2 lakh and arrested five alleged smugglers from Mulluk Chandpur in the district. The accused were bringing in the smuggled goods from India by a boat. On a secret information, a special patrol led by Nayeb Subedar Akhtaruzzaman reached the boat as soon as it reached the bank of the Padma. The contraband included rims, tubes and frogs of bicycle, tube rod bulb, electric bulb, powdered milk, steel glass, plate and other utensils, saree, blouse piece, cloth, battery, paper etc. These items were deposited at the local customs office.

Power consumers suffer for irregularities, corruption

From Our Correspondent. SATKHIRA, Sept 15: Electricity consumers of the district have been suffering much due to the alleged malpractice, irregularities and corruption of some employees of the Power Development Board (PDB) office of Satkhira district. Besides, the government have been deprived of a huge revenue from the district PDB office due to the illegal use of power in the residences, mills and factories. It is alleged that there are about 200 illegal connections given from each pole. These illegal connections were given by a section of PDB employees who realise between Taka 50 to Taka 100 from each connection monthly, it is alleged.

On the other hand, the genuine consumers of the PDB alleged that they are being given inflated bills almost every month. Hundreds of consumers protested against the inflated bills time and again, but to no effect. Besides, the system loss in the distribution of electricity here is increasing day by day due to malpractices and corruptions, it is alleged. The system loss is increasing due to the illegal consumption of electricity which is not counted in meter. According to reliable source, some dishonest employees of the office have sold a huge quantities of electric equipment like wire, cable meter and other electric ma-

terials in the blackmarkets during the last few years. The suffering consumers have urged the authorities concerned to probe into the matter and take immediate action against the corrupt employees of the department.

AED undertakes massive aman cultivation

From Our Correspondent. CHANDPUR, Sept 15: Agricultural Extension Department (AED) has undertaken a massive aman cultivation programme on about two lakh hectares of land, in five flood affected thanas of the district, during the current season. Of the total, about one lakh hectare will be brought under High Yielding Variety (HYV) while another one lakh hectare will be brought under local variety. The production target has been fixed at 1.50 lakh metric tons of HYV and

1.50 lakh metric tons of local varieties. Besides some demonstration plots will be set up in all thanas to introduce latest agricultural technique. The Agriculture Extension Department has arranged some plots at BSCIC and BWDB premises to cultivate aman seedlings. These seedlings will be distributed free of cost among the flood affected farmers.

Clash between 2 groups: Seven seriously hurt

From Our Correspondent. RAJSHAHI, Sept 15: At least seven persons were injured four seriously, in a clash between two rival groups of villagers over a dispute of possession of a government-owned pond at Bejiwa village near Darunsha hat of Paba thana in the district recently. According to the Paba thana police, a tense situation was prevailing in the village for many days on taking possession of the pond between two groups of villagers. One party tried to fish in the pond and another group rushed to resist them. As a result clash ensued between the groups used deadly weapons like hasua, ballam, ram dao, baala etc, injuring seven persons. A house was also ransacked and looted during the clash. A case was registered with the Paba thana

BCIC Tender Notice. Managing Director, Jamuna Fertilizer Company Ltd, Tarakandi, Sarishabari, Jamalpur hereby invites sealed tenders for supply of various stationery and printing items against tender enquiry No JFGL/LP/MPIC/2.598/2485 dated 28.9.95. Tenders will be received up to 11.00 AM on 05.10.95 & be opened immediately thereafter. Tender documents containing detailed terms & conditions will be available on payment of Tk 25.00 (Twentyfive) only (non-refundable) in cash from the office of the (i) Controller of Accounts, BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000 (ii) BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad C/A, Chittagong & (iii) Jamuna Fertilizer Company Ltd, Tarakandi, Sarishabari, Jamalpur. No tender document will be sold on the date of opening. BCIC 964-10/9/95 DFP-22122-11/9 G-1348

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Executive Engineer Facilities Department, Ministry of Education, Moulvibazar Zone, Moulvibazar Re-Tender Notice

Tender No 02/PSS (ADB)/Furniture/FD/MBZ/95-96 Date: 02.09.95 Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No 2908-A are invited from Facilities Department A-1 enlisted contractors & bonafide furniture maker firms for supply of furnitures to the undermentioned educational institutions under ADB aided selected Private Secondary School Development Project. Tender document can be purchased from the office of the undersigned, office of the Executive Engineer, Sylhet/ Noakhali/Comilla/Chittagong/Cox's Bazar & office of the Assistant Engineer, Habiganj district up to 20.9.95 office hours at Taka 400/- (Four hundred) only (non-refundable). Tenders will be received at the office of the undersigned & the offices mentioned above up to 2.00 PM on 21.9.95 and opened on the same day at 2.30 minutes in presence (if any) of the tenderers. Contractors intending to participate in the tender shall have to produce the undermentioned papers at the time of purchasing tender document. 1. Current trade licence. 2. Current Income Tax & VAT Registration Certificate. 3. Work order & work completion certificate attested by an officer not below the rank of Executive Engineer against performance of supply work worth Taka 2.00 (two) lakh at any Govt./Semi-Govt organisation under a single Work Order. Price of tender per set Taka 400/- (Four hundred) only (non-refundable). Earnest money: At the rate of 2% (two per cent) of quoted amount with each tender in the form of Bank Draft/Pay-Order from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh in favour of Executive Engineer, Facilities Department, Moulvibazar Zone. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason. Description of work: Group No, District, Thana, Name of the educational institution, Time limit for completion of work, Remarks. Secondary Education Development Project ADB: 1. Moulvibazar Sadar a) Natun Bazar Model HS 2 (two) months b) Jagat CJK HS c) Victoria HS d) Haji Usar Ali Girls' HS e) Kadam Hata HS f) Fakir Bazar HS 2. Habiganj Sadar a) Shayestaganj Girls' HS 2 (two) months b) Baniachong c) Putijuri SC HS d) Mostafapur Anwar-ul-Ulum Dakhil Madrasa 3. Habiganj Madhabpur a) Chowmuhani Khurshi HS 2 (two) months b) Syed Uddin HS c) Auliabad HS d) Dakshinacharan HS e) Jarulia Islamia Dakhil Madrasa Successful tenderer, after making the furnitures, shall have to reach the furnitures to the selected private secondary school/Madrasa as per the list at his own expense. Tenderer shall have to quote rates itemwise in figures & words and submit itemwise analysis. Md Jaamuddin Executive Engineer Facilities Department Moulvibazar Zone, Moulvibazar. DFP-21770-9/9 G-1347