



TRAFFIC JAM: The scenes in the two above pictures are not unusual. The photos witness everyday life of Sylhet and Sirajganj towns.



The photo on right shows the main road in Sylhet town, a constant scene throughout day time.

Sixteen N-dists to receive agricultural loan

CHAPAINAWABGANJ, Nov 18: Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank has undertaken a programme to disburse agricultural loan of Tk 94 crore in 16 northern districts during the current rabi season, reports UNB.

According to officials, of the total amount, Tk 50.50 crore will be distributed for IRR-Boro while Tk 18 crore for sugarcane, Tk 7 crore for wheat, Tk 1.25 crore for mustard and groundnut and Tk 11.25 crore for other rabi crops during the season.

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

Meanwhile, the bank has completed the formalities and started disbursing the loan among the farmers of the district.

Another report says: Some 12,28,800 hectares of land have been brought under IRR-Boro and wheat cultivation in these northern districts in the current rabi season with a production target 32,89,340 metric tons.

Agricultural Extension Department (AED) sources said, of the total land, 8,28,800 hectares have been brought under IRR-Boro and 4 lakh hectares under wheat cultivation.

On completion of the programme under taken by AED, a total of 25,58,340 metric tons of IRR-Boro paddy and 7,31,000 metric tons of wheat is expected to be produced.

Over Taka 5 lakh of rehabilitation scheme defalcated in Khagrachhari

From CHT Correspondent KHAGRACHHARI, Nov 18: An amount Taka 5,36,100 was defalcated by the concerned officials which was allocated for Chittagong Hill Tracts integrated Development and Rehabilitation Scheme, 1995 scheduled to be implemented in 1994-95 fiscal in the six thanas of Khagrachhari Hill District, concerned sources alleged.

The entrusted officials allegedly misappropriated the fund of the allocation by submitting false and fabricated papers showing the implementation of the scheme nicely, the allegation added.

Towards raising of horticulture with fruit-bearing plants by motivating the tribal people with adoption of scientific method in the district, the Local Government Council of Khagrachhari Hill District allocated Taka 5,36,100 in 1994-95 fiscal to Agriculture Extension Department as implementing agency, official sources said.

The thana-wise breakup of the allocation was: Panchhari - Taka 59,500, Dighinala - Taka 65,100, Mohalchhari - Taka 58,450, Matiranga - Taka 82,600, Manikchhari - Taka 70,700, Luxmichhari - Taka 54,200, Ramgarh - Taka 65,100 and Khagrachhari sadar - Taka 80,500, official sources added.

Besides, imparting of training to the interested horticulturists on payment of an honorarium at the rate of Taka 50 per head daily and supply of improved variety of seeds of banana, mango, guava, lichi, coconut, safeda etc including fertiliser were prescribed in the implementation schedule of the scheme.

Moreover, the display of boards inscribing the name of the horticulturists with the species planted in the plot of the scheme was obligatory, officials said. The time for raising horticulture was fixed from March to September in the scheme planning.

No works of the scheme in six thanas of the district were carried out except Khagrachhari sadar and Ramgarh thanas, a high official of the allocating agency said requesting anonymity.

At least a dozen of councillors of the Local Government Council of Khagrachhari Hill District, who very often visit their area of responsibility told The Daily Star that the visibility or any sign of implementation of the scheme was observed or evident no where in those six thanas.

While elaborating the allegation, sources said that the banana seedlings which were scheduled to be supplied by the months of Baishakh and Jaisthya, were allegedly supplied by the middle of Ashwin.

The pineapple seedlings, now being damaged in stacks at road side, were scheduled to be supplied by Srabon last. The receipt of those seedlings was regretted by the rehabilitated jhumias as these were supplied on Kartic 3 last, sources categorically alleged.

The raising of rubber plantation which would fetch crore and crores of taka has become uncertain due to absence of polythene bags supply to the rubber nurseries in time. The rubber seedlings worth over few lakhs taka were damaged in a dozen of nurseries for want of polythene bags, the allegation stated.

Even 50 per cent of the total allocation is not being implemented, their allegation stated. From a view to uplift the socio-economic condition of the tribal people, the CHTDB has allocated Taka 30 crore in this fiscal to raise rubber plantation in the second phase of Upland Settlement and Jhumia Rehabilitation

Scheme.

The rehabilitated Jhumias have become very much reluctant in staying at the rehabilitated zone as they do not get the supply of relevant plantation materials in time to go ahead with their rubber plantation. The sources alleged that the authority with unfair intention supply those to the rehabilitated Jhumia families after passing out of plantation time.

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Bombs hurled at ex-BCL leader's house: 9 injured

SIRAJGANJ, Nov 18: Nine people were injured when a group of unidentified men hurled several hand bombs at the residence of a former Chhatra League leader at Alampur in Kazipur thana of the district in the small hours today, reports UNB.

According to villagers the roof of the house of former president of Thana unit Chhatra League (S-P) Abdul Hannan was blown up in the explosion.

Hannan, his brother Selim Reza, and seven others injured people were admitted to Bogra Mohammad Ali Hospital in a critical condition.

On the same night the residence of BCL (S-P) leader Enamul Haque at the village Baraitali in the same thana, also came under bomb attack.

The BCL blamed the Jatityatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) for the attack. Meanwhile, eleven people were injured in a clash between the two rival student organisations in Kazipur thana on Tuesday. As a sequel to clashes Awami League leader Abdul Mannan and BCL leader Montu were assaulted on Wednesday evening.

Fake police officer held

MAIJDEE COURT (Noakhali), Nov 18: A fake police officer was arrested from a video shop of the town while taking a video camera from the shop recently, reports UNB.

According to police, Kabir Hossain of Austagram of Kishoreganj district introduced himself as a newly posted police sergeant to a video shop owner and booked a video camera on November 7 to use it for personal purpose.

But the owner of the shop, on suspicion, informed the matter to the police.

Later, police arrested Kabir from the shop when he came to take delivery of the camera.

A case was registered in this connection.

50,000 weavers out of business

From Our Correspondent GOPALGANJ, Nov 18: Due to scanty supply of thread, spun, colour, die necessary chemicals and lack of proper government assistance the weavers of the district have been facing manifold problems. For this reason, the traditional weaving industries of Gopalganj district is now on the verge of extinction.

Besides this, huge supply of Indian clothes have captured the local markets and are being sold at a very cheap price than the local made cloths. So, about fifty thousand weavers of five thanas in Gopalganj district have been unemployed and many of them have already given up their profession. At present the weavers are adopting other alternative profession to meet their daily needs. However, once upon a time the weavers of this area was rich but now a days the economic condition of the weavers are not good at all. As the weavers have no working capital they borrow money from the local money lenders at a high rate of interest. Though the government have plans and policy to rehabilitate the weavers to their own profession but no such help was given to the weavers of the district for unknown reasons.

The influential persons of the community have demanded necessary steps to save the weavers and their generation of the district for the greater interest of the country

Sharbaharaman dies in police custody

From Our Correspondent SARKHIRA, Nov 18: Abdul Aziz, 35, a member of the outlawed Sarbahara Party died in police custody last night.

District police arrested Abdul Aziz of Tala thana from the residence of Shaheb Ali of Mahmudpur village on mid-night of November 14.

Police said that Aziz was arrested on murder charges.

Later, police produced Aziz before the District Magistrate who sent Aziz to the hospital as he was reportedly beaten-up in police custody.

Aziz was sent back to the jail yesterday where he died at around 11 on the same night.

Target of aman production may not be achieved

NETROKONA, Nov 18: The target of transplanted aman production may not be achieved in ten thanas of the district as a vast tract of land remained uncultivated in this season due mainly to want of seedlings, reports UNB.

According to the farmers, following the recession of flood water they could not collect the seedlings to transplant their land. The requisite number of seedlings could not be prepared in time due to the flood.

As a result, scarcity is prevailing in the district. Taking advantage of this situation the price of seedlings has shot up abnormally which is beyond the reach of poor and marginal farmers.

Civic amenities in Jhenidah decreasing

From Delwar Kabir

JHENIDAH, Nov 18: With the increase of population, civic amenities of the people of Jhenidah district is decreasing, it was alleged.

According to reports, Jhenidah pourashava was established in November 3, 1958 by the then Sub-Divisional Officer (SDO), Jhenidah with a population of 18,000 in 38 villages of Jhenidah thana. S M Matiubur Rahman was the first elected Chairman of the Pourashava. He shifted the office building to the present site from near Jhenidah prison in 1961. The one storeyed office building of the pourashava was constructed to two storeyed building during the Poura Administrator of Mijanur Rahman in 1992.

The population of Jhenidah pourashava now stands at about one lakh in three words. Number of holding in Jhenidah poura area is 11,415, it was learnt. Out of the total area of 32.42 square kilometers, 74.95 kilometers road is asphalted while

220 kilometers is kucha. Besides, 4 kilometers pucca and 36 kilometers kuccha drains were seen in poura areas.

The people of poura area have been deprived of proper facilities. Some of the people of poura area alleged that the authorities have not been removing the kucha drains from Beparipara and other parts of the town after repeated requests. As a result, the people have been suffering badly as mosquitoes have taken permanent refuge in them.

In long Jhenidah-Arapur, Arappur-Khajura and some other roads of the pourashava became unfit for traffic movement. But authorities did not take necessary steps to repair them, local people alleged. Besides traffic jams became a great threat to the town dwellers.

The number of rickshaws in Jhenidah town is more than 1,500. But only 1,500 are licensed.

Mujanur Rahman Khoka, Chairman, Jhenidah pourashava, while talking to The Daily Star said, he took the chair on March '93 and since then the development activities have been going on smoothly. Regarding frequent traffic jams, Khoka said, the traffic control system in Jhenidah was not good. The rickshawpullers pay no heed to the traffic rules which he pointed out, was the main cause behind the traffic jams. He had requested the enforcing agencies to detain them and award them the punishment they deserve. To end traffic jams and provide the city dwellers with proper communication as they have planned to construct a fly-over near Jhenidah post office at a cost of six lakh. The construction work of the fly-over is likely to start soon, he



JHENIDAH A drain filled with garbage in front of Wazir Ali High School in the town which was not cleaned for long time, local people alleged.

BCIC Tender Notice. The Managing Director, Zia Fertilizer Company Limited, Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria invites sealed tender for procurement of Electrocardiogram Analyzer against Tender No CM/Med/216/95.

Tender Notice Military Engineer Services (Army). Applications are invited by AHQ, QMG's Br, DW & CE (Army) Dhaka Cantt for issue of tender documents for the following works.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার. পুনঃ সংশোধনী বিজ্ঞপ্তি. উপরোক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি বাহা ইতিপূর্বে বিভিন্ন তারিখে বিভিন্ন দৈনিক পত্রিকা প্রকাশিত হইয়াছে তাহা আংশিক সংশোধনপূর্বক শর্তাবলীতে আর্নেস্টম্যানি ১% শতাংশ ব্যাংক ড্রাকট/পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক প্যারাকির্ডির মাধ্যমে জমা দিতে হইবে।

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার. শিক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়. বাংলাদেশ ইউনেস্কো জাতীয় কমিশন. ১ নং এশিয়ান মহা সড়ক, পলাশী, নীলক্ষেত ঢাকা-১২০৫. প্রকল্প প্রস্তাব আহবান বিজ্ঞপ্তি. ইউনেস্কোর পার্টিসিপেশন প্রোগ্রামের আওতায় ১৯৯৬-৯৭ সালের জন্য সরকারী, আধা-সরকারী, স্বায়ত্বশাসিত ও বেসরকারী সংস্থা (এনজিও) সমূহ হতে শিক্ষা, সংস্কৃতি, বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি, স্বাস্থ্য, শ্রম, উন্নয়ন ও নারী শিক্ষার উন্নয়ন ক্ষেত্রে কর্মশালা, সেমিনার, সিম্পোজিয়াম অনুষ্ঠান ও যন্ত্রপাতি ক্রয় এর উপর প্রকল্প প্রস্তাব আহবান করা যাচ্ছে।