

Rubber plantation on 12000 acres in Bandarban

BANDARBAN, Mar 13: Government has taken up a massive programme to bring 12,000 acres of land under rubber plantation to rehabilitate 3,000 tribal families in three hill districts, reports UNB.

According to official sources, under the programme, rubber plantation on 8,600 acres and rehabilitation of 2,600 families have already been completed.

The government has started the activities of tribal rehabilitation through rubber plantation since 1980-81. So far, Tk 52 crore has been spent in the sector and another Tk 40 crore is being spent in the second phase to bring 4,000 acres of land under rubber plantation for rehabilitation of 2,000 tribal families.

Work on the second phase began last year and is expected to be completed by the year 2000.

Under the programme each tribal family has been provided with 5 acres of land for construction of houses and rubber plantation.

After production of rubber, 60 per cent of the profit would be given to the concerned families and the rest 40 per cent would be spent for nursing the garden and payment of government employees.

In Sadar and Dighinala thanas of Khagrachhari and Baghaichhari thana of Rangamati, 300 metric tons of rubber worth about Tk 3 crore have already been produced in 1,500 acres of land.

Housewife chopped to death

SIRAJGANJ, Mar 13: A housewife was chopped to death allegedly by her husband at Chotrighati village in Ullapara thana on Friday, reports UNB.

Police said Sayed Khan asked his wife Shahara Khatun to bring dowry from her parents house. As Shahara Khatun refused to comply the order, the infuriated husband chopped her, she died on the spot.

Police recovered the body next morning. Her husband went into hiding after the incident.

Another report adds: Police rounded up two students of Korotia College for carrying contraband phensidyl syrup on Saturday.

Liaquat Ali and Khandaker Rezaul Karim were arrested with 57 bottles of syrup from the Bazar station.

Fish fry worth Tk 3.75 lakh released

PATUAKHALI, Mar 13: District Fisheries Department has released some 3,750 kgs of fish fry worth about Tk 3.75 lakh in 6 canals and 60 ponds of the district during the current fiscal year, reports UNB.

At present, there are some 65,342 ponds on 6,152 hectares of land in six thanas of the district, official sources said, adding there are also 276 canals covering 9,555 hectares of land.

Of the total, fish is being cultivated in 48,809 ponds while the rest 16,533 ponds remained uncultivated.

But fish culturists of the district are facing various problems including salinity. The rate of salinity has increased to 7.04 PPT in Kalapara, Galachipa and Dashmina thana areas.

Taking the advantage of salinity, local people are cultivating shrimp instead of other fish. Some 38 shrimp hatcheries have already been set up in Galachipa and Kalapara thana recently.

Felling of trees rampant in Rajbari

RAJBARI, Mar 13: Environment is at stake due to massive felling of trees and its large scale use in the brickfields in the district despite government ban, reports UNB.

The law, which prohibits use of trees as fuel, could not be enforced due to lack of supervision even though there is provision of imprisonment and fine for the violators.

A brickfield owner told UNB that some 2,000 maunds of firewoods are required to burn one lakh bricks while the coal required 30 tons. But they said they are using firewood instead of coal to minimise the cost of production.

No steps has yet been taken by the authorities concerned to save the forest resources.

Non-availability of text books in Patuakhali

PATUAKHALI, Mar 13: Teaching in the primary and secondary schools is being seriously hampered due to non-availability of text books, reports UNB.

Guardians said their children are yet to get most of the books even after two and a half months of the new academic session. Only a few text books have been published for class IX but are being sold at higher prices.

Book-sellers said text books are not available in the market.



Traders using donkeys and horses for carrying potato from Munshiganj as mechanised vehicles are off the roads due to the opposition's non-cooperation movement. — Star photo

30 lakh saplings planted in Chuadanga in 3 yrs

From Our Correspondent

CHUADANGA, Mar 13: The people of Chuadanga district are now much interested in tree plantation. During the last three years, about 30 lakh of different kinds of saplings have been planted in four thanas of the district and in three pourashava areas. The thanas are Chuadanga sadar, Alamdanga, Damurhuda and Jibanagar and the three pourashavas are Chuadanga, Alamdanga and Darsana.

Of the total, nine lakh saplings were planted in 1993, ten lakh in 1994 and 11 lakh in 1995. The prospect of tree plantation in Chuadanga district is very bright and encouraging, according to experts.

The saplings planted during the period are of mango, jackfruit, black berry, guava, litchi, kul, coconut, lemon, amra, jamrul, kodbel, bel, shishu, shegun, mehogan, babla, and others.

All these saplings have been planted in the private lands of the people, and by the side of

the government, union parishad and zila parishad roads. The forest department, different NGOs and Rotary Clubs have also planted lakhs of saplings in the district during the period.

The Road and Highways Department has also been implementing a massive tree plantation programme in the district.

At present there are about 50 small and big private nurseries and four government nurseries in the district where

Primary school project

PATUAKHALI, Mar 13: Local Government Engineering Department has undertaken a programme to construct six government primary school buildings in the district during current fiscal year, reports UNB.

Tk 26.42 lakh has been sanctioned for the implementation of the scheme, official sources said.

every year about 30 lakhs of saplings of different kinds of fruit bearing and other trees are being produced and sold out.

The important and big private nurseries of Chuadanga thana — "Shova nursery," "Laxmi nursery," "New nursery," "Sabuz nursery" and "Moushumi nursery" — were established in 1983.

Owner of a nursery, Md. Belal Hussain said that he maintains his family from the income of his nursery. During the last 3 to 4 years, his sale has increased to a great extent, he said.

The common people of the district have now been much interested and eager to plant trees, Belal said.

Day by day the rate of tree plantation has been increasing in the district. The common people are gradually being interested in tree plantation.

Besides, every day hundreds of saplings are being sold in the different hats.

Violence on rise in Magura

MAGURA, Mar 13: Life of the people in Sreepur thana in the district has become miserable due to the increasing misdeeds of the terrorists and extortionists, reports UNB.

The sufferers said Shachilapur, Chakda, Galdah, Darpur, Langolbandh, Khamarpara and Joka are the main spots of the terrorists.

The terrorist youths in these areas directly go to the businessmen and well-to-do families and introduce themselves as the members of the underground parties and demand money.

Shamim Biswas of Sonatundi Bazar alleged that the members of the group swooped on his shop on February 19 and demanded Tk 10,000 as toll. But being refused the miscreants damaged goods of his shop and looted Tk 5,200 from the cash box.

After the incident he attempted to file case with the thana but police allegedly did not take his case.

Amar Kumar of Tarajjal village of Sreepur thana alleged that the members of the same group also raided his house and demanded Tk 50,000 toll.

As he failed to pay the toll, the miscreants looted his motor cycle, gold ornaments and cash.

Text book crisis in Jhenidah

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, Mar 13: Acute text book crisis has been prevailing in Jhenidah and adjoining districts it is reported.

According to "Bangladesh Pushtak Prakashak and Biktreta Samity" sources, the number of students in high schools and madrasahs is above 8 lakh. But only two lakh sets of text books were printed so far for class six which could not meet the requirements of the students.

In different markets, books for class six such as English for today is being sold between Taka 52 and 54 instead of fixed rate Taka 24.50; General Mathematics between Taka 35 and 38 instead of Taka 26.55; General Science between Taka 42 and 45 instead of fixed price Taka 30.30; Social Science between Taka 43 and 45 instead of Taka 21.35 and Charupth (Bengali) between Taka 36 and 38 instead of its actual rate Taka 24.60.

Sources said, the members of the samity get a commission of 22 per cent for selling text

books published by them. But they were deprived of the commission as the supply was not available in the market.

Sources said, a few quantities of Bangla (Prose and Poetry) books were printed by the National Curriculum and Text Book Board. But the books were withdrawn from the market immediately for an unknown reason, they added.

All books except English for class nine have been changed from this year.

Some students and guardians alleged that they were compelled to purchase note books which was known as 'guide' while purchasing text books. The sellers have been taking the full advantages now, they alleged.

On the otherhand, some book sellers who are also the members of their samity said that they had been facing closure as sufficient books were not supplied among them even after three months of the academic session.

Lack of engines, boggies hits train communication

RAJBARI, Mar 13: Scarcity of rail engines and passenger boggies has been hampering the smooth train communication in Pakshi division of the Western Zone, reports UNB.

Official sources said the number of engines in broad gauge line in Pakshi division is 76, including 20 small engines. Of them, three have been totally abandoned and other three are out of order. Eight of the samll engines remained out of order for a long time.

There is a severe scarcity of boggy along with the engine. Out of 319 boggies in the broad gauge line, 108 are awaiting repair.

There are 85 trains in Pakshi section, of which, 12 are inter-city trains, 16 mail and 49 local trains.

The goods engines and boggies are being used in inter-city and mail trains while the dilapidated ones in local trains. The speed of the trains has reduced to 15-25 kilometres

BSCIC trains 1,583 women in CTG so far

BANDARBAN, Mar 13: Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) has given training to 1,583 women in handloom, sewing and bamboo-cane work, reports UNB.

A source of the BSCIC said it has given loan of Tk 3.25 lakh to the trainee entrepreneurs to make them self-reliant.

Meanwhile the BSCIC sanctioned Tk 3.80 crore for socio-economic development of the Jhumia tribals of three hill districts.

The Local Government Parishad had formed a revolving fund of Tk 7.86 lakh for creating job opportunities for the small entrepreneurs of handloom factory, bamboo and cane based cottage industries, wood work and sericulture.

Some 25 unemployed male and female of Lama, Ruma and Sadar thanas of the district are being given assistance by providing them raw materials from the fund.

Officials said government has formed a special fund of Tk 5.70 crore for development of the population of the cluster villages in Rangamati and Khagrachhari districts.

Notice to District Correspondents

The district correspondents of The Daily Star have been advised to fax their reports during the opposition's non-cooperation programme. — National Desk

2 children burnt to death in B'baria

From Our Correspondent

BRAHMANBARIA, Mar 13: Two children died of the burns they received in a devastating fire and their father and sister were injured seriously at Gazipur village under Sarail thana of the district recently.

Their house was gutted in the fire which was sparked off from a lamp on March 8, sources said.

Monija, 4, and Jorina, 3, succumbed to their burn injuries in the hospital two days after the incident. The condition of their father Abon Ali, 60, and sister Haruna, 6, are stated to be critical.

The fire engulfed the house after a diesel container caught fire from the lamp and exploded when Abon Ali was pouring diesel from the container.

Alleged dacoit held

JHALOKATI, Mar 13: Police in a pre dawn raid at Nathulabad village in Sadar thana arrested an alleged dacoit today, reports UNB.

Acting on a tip off, police raided the house of one Manik at the village and nabbed Manik Mir, 27, in connection with a daring dacoity committed at Jigatola in the capital last month.

They also recovered Tk 42,000 and ornaments worth about Tk 50,000 from the house. The bank account of Manik has also been forfeited.

According to police, armed dacoits on February 19 stormed the residence of one Syed Anwar Hossain at Jigatola and looted cash and valuables, including gold ornaments, worth about 60 lakh.

Bangladesh Council of Scientific & Industrial Research
 Ref No. Sec/Inte/1-516/89-90
Tender Notice
 Tenders are hereby invited from bonafide photographic firms for printing & supplying of high security ID cards for scientists/officers/employees of Bangladesh Council of Scientific & Industrial Research Secretariat & its various subsidiaries in Dhaka. Terms & conditions of submitting tender can be collected from the cashier of the Council Secretariat on cash payment of Taka 750/= (Seven hundred fifty) only (non-refundable) per set. Tender schedule can be collected up to 06-04-96 and no tender schedule will be sold after 06-04-96. Tender should be submitted by 12-00 Noon of 08-04-96.
 Detailed description of submitting tender can be obtained from the tender schedule.
 DFP-5434-9/3
 G-373
Secretary BCSIR

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Directorate of Sports
 25, Purana Paltan, Dhaka-1000
 No. DS/422/91/95-209 Dated: 02-03-1996 (19-11-1402BS)
Tender Notice
 Sealed tenders are invited from bonafide traders/supplying firms in their own pads to purchase a new microbus for Dhaka Physical Training College under the Directorate of Sports. Tenders will be received in the tender box kept at the Directorate of Sports up to 10-00 am of 28-03-96, Thursday, and the tenders will be opened on the same day at 10-30 am in presence (if any) of the tenderers.
 Schedule for submitting tender can be purchased at Tk 400/= (four hundred) each (non-refundable) from Directorate of Sports, 25, Purana Paltan, Dhaka up to 27-03-96, Wednesday, during office hours. All terms & conditions of tender are given in the schedule. The firm submitting tender shall have to deposit Bank Draft/Pay Order worth 2% of the total quoted amount from any scheduled bank in favour of Director, Directorate of Sports, 25, Purana Paltan, Dhaka as earnest money with the tender. Attested photo copy of Income Tax Clearance Certificate (current year) must be submitted at the time of purchasing schedule. White colour vehicle will be preferred for purchase.
 The Tender Committee reserves the right to cancel any or all tenders without assigning any reason.
S J M Akramuzzaman
 Director
 DFP-5272-7/3
 G-371



Two farmers erecting an embankment to protect their crop field from salt water as there is no such embankment in Nijhum Dwip. — Star photo by AKM Mohsin



People get on board an overloaded trawler risking their lives as only one trawler ferries passengers from Hatiya to Char Jabbar. — Star photo by AKM Mohsin

Dhaka WASA Tender Notice
 পানির অপচয় বন্ধ করুন। ম্যানহোলের ঢাকনা চুরি রোধ করুন
 Tenders are invited from Dhaka WASA enlisted 1st, 2nd & 3rd class contractors for the undermentioned works:

Sl No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Date & Time of Receiving Tender
1.	Repair of 8 nos Amps starters of various brands.	Taka 1,13,330/=	1-4-96 up to 12 Noon
2.	Repair of 4 sets 1.5 cusec Turbine pumps.	Taka 1,07,029/=	-Do-
3.	Making & installation of Combination box for electric connection to 15 nos water pumps.	Taka 83,078/=	-Do-

Tenders will be opened on the same date of receiving tender at 2-00 pm in presence (if any) of the tenderers or their representatives.
 Tender schedule will be available from the office of the Chief Accounts Officer of Dhaka WASA, WASA Bhaban, 98, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka & all MODS Zone offices of Dhaka WASA. Other detailed description will be available at the office of the undersigned.
Address:
 Hatkhola Road, Dhaka
 WASA-PI-54/96
 DFP-5418-9/3
 G-372
Iqbal Hossain Bhuiyan
 Executive Engineer
 FM Division
 Dhaka WASA