



MUNSHIGANJ. Flood waters forces many erosion-hit victims in Nurpur village to move to safer place in Louhajang Thana of the district. — Star photo

Result: New system not followed RU exam control office violates academic council decision

From Tareq Chowdhury

RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY, July 23: The office of the Examination Controller of Rajshahi University has allegedly violated university syndicate and academic council decisions by preparing and publishing the results of LLM final year (Law Masters) examination, according to concerned sources.

The examination controller office recently published the above mentioned results following the previous criteria of class grading instead of newly introduced class grading system.

According to department sources, the 284th meeting of university academic council took a resolution stopping the provision of upper second class in all subjects of honours and masters classes. This meeting also changed the grading system in regard of awarding degree and turned the previous 4 grade into 3 (three) separate grades.

The newly introduced criteria of grading are first class for at least 60 per cent or above marks holder, second class for at least 45 per cent or above marks holder and third class for at least 36 per cent or above marks holder. Formerly 40 per cent or above marks holder students used to get second class and 50 per cent or above marks holder used to be awarded upper second class. The decision of 284th academic council meeting was approved by university syndicate in due time.

The syndicate decision clearly mentioned that this criteria should be followed from session 1994-95 for honours examination and from session 1992-93 for masters and previous examination.

But in the recently published result of LLM final year examination (session 92-93) the newly introduced grading system was not followed which is a gross violation of syndicate and academic council's decision.

In the recently published result it shows that out of 98 examinees seven students got first class, 61 students got upper second class, 28 students got second class and rest of the students were awarded third class.

An officer of RU examination controller office acknowledged the fault saying 'this was done unwillingly'.

Meanwhile, many students have already received their certificate which should be amended thoroughly particularly in case of second class and upper second class.

Tk 22 cr Sylhet pouura budget announced

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, July 23: The annual budget of Sylhet Pourashava for the 1996-97 fiscal has been announced. Badaruddin Ahmed Kamran, Chairman, Sylhet Pourashava announced the budget at a function which was attended by elites and ward commissioners of the Pourashava.

The budget of Taka 22 crore 12 lakh 70 thousand budget shows expected income from different sources including Taka 6 crore 39 lakh 20 thousand from revenue earning and the government grant as development assistance.

An amount of Taka 5 crore 53 lakh is also shown in the budget to be received as ADB assistance and project fundings from the government while Taka 8 crore 43 lakh 50 thousand is expected to be earned from different sources of the Pourashava. It also showed an opening balance of Taka one crore 77 lakh.

Meanwhile, in the expenditure Taka 2 crore 49 lakh 70 thousand would be spent for different revenue heads. The Pourashava will spend an amount of Taka 13 crore 65 lakh from its own fund for implementing a number of development schemes like construction and reconstruction of roads, culverts, bridges, drains, tree planting and others during the year.

Besides, an amount of Taka 4 crore 28 lakh would be spent for executing some other development programmes. The budget also shows a closing balance of Taka one crore 70 lakh.

It may be stated here that, a good number of projects would be implemented under the on-going special programme of secondary towns development project. The ADB aided special programme would provide a total amount of Taka 5 crore 67 lakh 76 thousand during the 1996-97 fiscal, the Poura Chairman said.

The chairman while announcing the budget, the people to render all out cooperation in turning the town into a clean one. He also assured of taking all possible measures for ensuring the town dwellers with all possible facilities.

Trader held with forged notes

SATKHIRA, July 23: A trader was arrested with fake Bangladeshi currency from Bakal check post in the district on Wednesday. Bangladesh Rifles sources said Nur Mohammad of Bharshimla in Kaliganj thana was arrested while he was entering into the country from India with forged notes amounting to Tk 3,500. He was sent to jail bazat, reports UNB.

Bandarban gunfight 2 more arrested

BANDARBAN, July 23: Police here arrested two more people yesterday in connection with Thursday's gunfight incident, reports UNB.

Witnesses said police of Baghaichhari post in Naikhaingchhari thana picked up Salao Chasta, a monk and his associate Ching Thoi from Moyoengpara temple at around 11 am. They were nabbed on charge of giving shelter to the two activists of Myanmar Democratic Student Front.

Meanwhile, police said the arrested two Myanmar students confessed that they are the inhabitants of Mayojoang thana of Akiyab in Myanmar.

On Thursday night, a gunfight took place between the security forces and the arrested two Myanmar citizens at the temple area.

Two separate cases were filed with the Naikhaingchhari thana in this connection.

Journalist murder Procession brought out demanding arrest of killers

SATKHIRA, July 23: The woman of all walks of life of the district town brought out a big procession recently in protest against the killing of The Daily Patradut SM Alauddin and demanded the arrest of the killers. The procession brought out from district Mukti Joddha Sangsad premises paraded the main streets at the town, assembled at Satkhira Collectorate premises. Snigdha Haq a former member of parliament advocate Farida Akter Banu and Sejuti daughter of S.M. Alauddin spoke at the gathering. Later they submitted a memorandum to the deputy commissioner Satkhira. In the memorandum they urged the authorities concerned to arrest the killers.

Over Tk 3 crore earned selling timber by CHTNFD

RANGAMATI, July 23: The Chittagong Hill Tracts North Forest Division (CHTNFD) has earned an amount of Taka 3,37,32,727 as revenue against sale proceeds of forest products during the fiscal 1995-96, officials said.

Making an official disclosure, the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) of CHTNFD, M Altaf Hussain Khan said, an amount of Taka 1,37,82,800 was earned from the Karnaphuli Timber Extraction Project, a service oriented unit of the Bangladesh Forest Industries Development Corporation against supply of 9,71,000 cubic feet (cft) of valuable species of timbers and 1,42,000 cft of firewood from July 1995 to June, 1996 at a subsidised rate.

An amount of Taka 1,91,27,187 was earned from the private parties and individuals against supply of bamboos and sale proceeds of seized forest products through open auction while another amount of Tk 8,22,740 was received from the Karnaphuli Paper Mills Limited against supply of bamboos during 1995-96, the DFO added.



GAIBANDHA: Young boys diving in the flood waters near outer signal of Gaibandha railway station. Many parts of the railway line remain submerged affecting train communications in the district. This photo was taken on Sunday. — Star photo by AKM Rezaul Haq

Buses plying on inter-dist routes badly need terminal in Cox's Bazar

From Our Correspondent

COX'S BAZAR, July 23: Thousands of passengers have been facing great difficulties in the absence of bus terminal at Cox's Bazar district town.

It has been estimated that, about 1,000 buses and coaches run through Cox's Bazar everyday, to and from various parts of the country including Dhaka and Chittagong districts, mostly bringing in tourists and businessmen.

Stoppages of inter district and local buses at the town have been creating traffic jam causing untold suffering to the pedestrians for long time.

The buses are parked on the main road further narrowing the already narrow road.

The matter has been brought to the notice of the concerned authorities but no step has yet been taken.

The luxury coaches of Cox's Bazar-Dhaka, Cox's Bazar-Chittagong, Cox's Bazar-Teknaf routes have been using the Cox's Bazar main road creating frequent traffic congestions.

Local people said, Laldigirger area, Bazarghata, Zawatara area and both sides of the main road also remain packed with mini buses in the absence of bus stand or terminal.

Local people urged the authorities concerned to select a site and construct a bus terminal immediately to solve the longstanding crisis.

The increasing number of rickshaws of the same time has been causing lot of sufferings to the town travelers of Cox's Bazar Pourashava over the last two years.

At least 5,000 rickshaws are plying on the narrow main road within 3 square miles pourashava area.

The roads, specially in the main commercial areas of the town remain blocked most of the time by rickshaws causing hindrance to the movement of pedestrians and vehicles.

The people while moving on the main streets have to remain stranded from place to place due to lack of parking place for huge number of rickshaws.

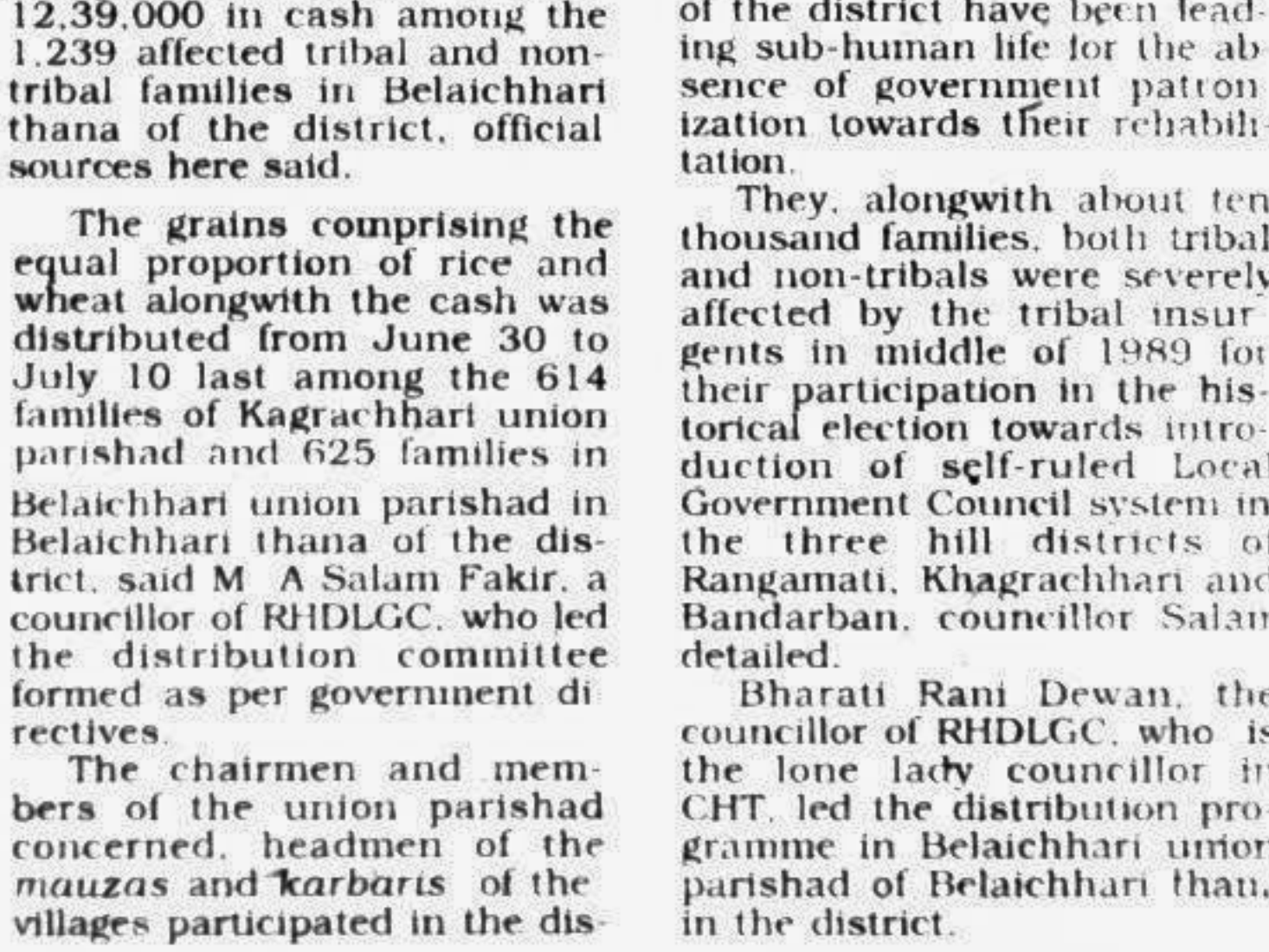
The school-going children are the worst sufferers. Besides the rickshaws from the nearby unions of the pourashava make entry into the town further aggravating the situation local peoples alleged.

On the other hand, a large number of rickshaws, both from Cox's Bazar Pourashava and adjacent unions, are reportedly plying in the pourashava without any licence.

The busy commercial town has become a place of rickshaws much to the annoyance and suffering of the people, local people complained, urging the authorities to take immediate steps in this regard.

Several factories are making rickshaws everyday despite a ban on their manufacture. Cox's Bazar pourashava banned the manufacture of new rickshaws without prior permission from the authorities concerned.

The rickshaw-slow and unsafe mode of transport is plying on the town roads, causing unnecessary traffic jams and inconveniences to the passengers everyday. Nobody knows the exact number of rickshaws on the roads of the town. If the manufacturing rickshaws is not checked right now movement on the roads will be difficult in the next couple of years, said a traffic sergeant.



SYLHET: President UK unit of Awami League Ataur Rahman Khan addressing a press conference at the Sylhet Press Club on Thursday last.

Insurgency affected people given grains, cash for rehabilitation

From CHT Correspondent

BELAICHHARI (Rangamati), July 23: With a view to rehabilitate the insurgency affected people of the district, the Rangamati Hill District Local Government Council (RHLG) has distributed 676,594 metric tons of grains along with an amount of Taka 12,39,000 in cash among the 1,239 affected tribal and non-tribal families in Belaichhari thana of the district, official sources here said.

The grains comprising the equal proportion of rice and wheat along with the cash was distributed from June 30 to July 10 last among the 614 families of Kagrachhari union parishad and 625 families in Belaichhari union parishad in the three hill districts of Rangamati, Khagrachhari and Bandarban. Councillor Salam detailed.

They, along with about ten thousand families, both tribal and non-tribals were severely affected by the tribal insurgents in middle of 1989 for their participation in the historical election towards introduction of self-ruled Local Government Council system in the three hill districts of Rangamati, Khagrachhari and Bandarban. Councillor Salam detailed.

Bharati Rami Dewan, the councillor of RHLG, who is the lone lady councillor in CHT, led the distribution programme in Belaichhari union parishad of Belaichhari thana in the district.

The chairman and members of the union parishad concerned, headmen of the mazzas and karbaris of the villages participated in the distribution programme along with the concerned government officials, the councillor added.

At least more 200 families in Belaichhari and Khagrachhari union parishads as well as 1,000 families in Pharia union parishad in Belaichhari thana of the district have been leading sub-human life for the absence of government patronization towards their rehabilitation.

BSCIC plans to cultivate 'white' pearl in Cox's Bazar

From Our Correspondent

COX'S BAZAR, July 23: Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) has undertaken an initiative for massive cultivation of cultured pearls in Cox's Bazar district.

Official sources here said that, the vast tract of coastal belt of Cox's Bazar region is suitable for large scale artificial cultivation of oyster which cultures 'white' pearl, Burmese pearl, which is precious and widely acclaimed is also available with other kinds of pearl in this land, the sources said.

A special team of European Economic Community (EEC) already visited Cox's Bazar last year trying to assess such possible business and expressed their opinion that there was bright prospect for artificial cultivation of white pearl in Cox's Bazar.

A BSCIC official said, a training centre and reproduction cell will be set up at Cox's Bazar very soon. In absence of planned way of collecting pearl, massive exploitation of pearl has become impossible.

Two alleged dacoits with fire-arm nabbed

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, July 23: Two alleged dacoits along with a fire-arm were nabbed by Bajitpur police recently.

Sabuj and Khokan were caught while they were preparing themselves to commit robbery at Pailan on Bajitpur-Sarchar road. Police recovered one pipe-gun, two rounds of ammunitions and one dagger from their possession.

Tk 58 cr project to reconstruct seven bridges in Sylhet

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, July 23: An ambitious project has been undertaken for construction of 7 new bridges on the Sylhet Tamabil National Highway. The total expenditure would be about Tk 58 crore, an official of RGH said.

The project will be financed by the British Overseas Development Agency (ODA), the aid from British Foreign and Common Wealth office.

The existing seven worn out bridges at Sarighat, Baragan, Jainta, Biramara, Bangladeazar and Naljur would be demolished and new ones would be constructed, the source added. Of the total amount, Taka 34 crore would be spent for construction of the bridge at Sarighat while the rest Taka 14 crore would

Housewife commits suicide

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, July 23: One housewife committed suicide by hanging herself on July 19 last.

Police sources said, one Trishna Ranu, 28, wife of Puhinchandra Sarkar of Balabaria village under Assassuni thana committed suicide by hanging herself on a branch of a tree near her home. Family trouble was the cause of her suicide, the source added. An UD case was lodged.

Remote hilly areas of Cox's Bazar safe haven for arms smugglers

COX'S BAZAR, July 22: Remote hilly areas of Cox's Bazar district have become a safe haven for the terrorists and firearms smugglers. Law and order situation in the district has deteriorated in recent days as the illegal armed men have become active.

It is learnt from a reliable source that local terrorists and different political leaders and activists are the main customers of the clandestine deals. These illegal firearms smuggled through bordering areas reach inside the country dodging the members of the law enforcing agencies.

From St. Martin Island to Ukhiya thana the vast areas of about 80 kilometres are bordered by the river Naaf. The BDR members deployed for patrolling the bordering areas lack sufficient speed boats and contingents.

The ports along the bordering areas are often allegedly opened to the smugglers. Some members of the law enforcing agencies for the protection of the borders allegedly have understanding with the ghat (port) bidders on the basis of weekly payment. After an understanding is reached, the ghat is opened to the smugglers.

As a result, the firearms smugglers get the chance to carry illegal arms through the said 'open' routes of the border.

Four months back security forces in a big arms haul at Cox's Bazar recovered huge modern sophisticated weapons. Bangladesh security forces and police in a joint raid recovered 850 pieces of automatic weapons and several thousand rounds of ammunition from three trucks at Chawfakandi ghat under sadar thana on last March 25. Acting on a secret informa-

From Our Correspondent

tion, the security personnel conducted the raid. Several persons, believed to be members of an organised group of terrorists left behind the trucks, sensing the presence of the security forces and police.

The recovered weapons included SMG, LMG, rocket launchers, automatic rifle, pistol and several thousand ammunition. These weapons were believed to have been brought from abroad by trawlers through sea routes and were meant for distribution among terrorist groups inside the country, the sources added. Police also arrested 13 Indian nationals in connection with the illegal arms haul.

In the clandestine market, an Indian made coil or gopi pistol can be bought between Tk 5,000 and Tk 7,000 a

piece a smith's wesson or tiger brand revolver costs Tk 10,000 to Tk 15,000. Various brands of shot guns sell at Tk 9,000 to Tk 10,000 a piece, cut rifle at Tk 30,000, Chinese rifle at Tk 60,000 and pipe gun at Tk 2,000 to Tk 5,000 a piece. Bullets of various capacities are sold at Tk 800 to Tk 1,000 a dozen.

These firearms are usually transported during the daytime in vegetable baskets, fodder or under cart loads. The trespassers take the remote roads and waterways to smuggle these arms into the Bangladesh territory.

Law and order in the Cox's Bazar district has deteriorated in recent days causing great concern to local people.

Dacoity, theft, murder, gambling, kidnapping, rape, cattlehead lifting, hijacking,

Flood situation in Gaibandha, Jamalpur remains unchanged

GAIBANDHA, July 23: Flood situation in the district remain unchanged till Sunday although a slight recession was noticed in river Brahmaputra and Ghagot.

Our Correspondent after visiting affected areas reports although the road communication with Shaghata, Fulchhari and Sunderganj thanas was restored partially yet portions of Metu roads still remain under six to one feet deep water. Besides, on Monday road communication with Sadullapur Thana was snapped following wash out of 20 feet wide portion of road near Khankasharif affecting portion of Nadima Hauskin Mills.

Crisis of flood shelters, food, drinking water and medicare is prevailing in all areas. The relief allocated in this respect is not adequate compared to the demand. Meanwhile, many allege relief materials are not being distributed properly.

Government, meanwhile, allocated cash Tk 70,000 — other than Prime Minister's relief of Tk 5 lakh, 25 tons of wheat and 170 metric tons of rice.

Our Jamalpur correspondent reports: The flood situation in the low-lying areas of the district and its surrounding areas remained unchanged. The situation in the district decorated owing to continuous onrush of hilly waters from across the Indian border following rise in the water level in the rivers of Jamuna and Brahmaputra and its tributaries recently. In the district, fresh areas went under water, according to official and unofficial reports received till Monday.

The river Jamuna is flowing 48 cm above danger mark at Bahadurabad ghat and Brahmaputra is flowing 39 cm above its danger mark at Dewanganj point Monday evening, according to the Water Development Board (WDB) sources.

The total number of flood affected unions stands at 48 out of 69 in seven thanas and some areas of Jamalpur and Saraghabari Pourashava were also submerged in last six days. According to district administration sources, about 1,50,000 people belonging to some 1,800 families have been badly affected. Our 8000 houses have been totally damaged by the flood.

About 30 km pucca roads and 6000 miles of rural kutcha road have gone under flood water. Seven bridges, 17 culverts were also damaged.

Official sources said about 2 lakh acres of land of newly planted aman crops had gone under two to ten feet flood water.