



RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY: Pro M Altaf Hussain, Pro-VC of RU speaking at the annual general meeting (AGM) of RU Newspapers Readers Forum held here recently. — Star photo

Gaibandha DC office gheraoed

Flood, erosion-hit victims demand food, work

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, July 30: Hundreds of flood victims along western belt of river Brahmaputra under Fulchhari thana brought out a large protest demonstration demanding rehabilitation, food, work and shelter that paraded main streets of Gaibandha town on July 28.

The erosion victims including large numbers of women Sunday gheraoed the office of Deputy Commissioner where they held a protest rally in the collectorate premise. The rally was addressed by Akber Hossain Sarker, Chairman, Kanchipara union parishad and Fulchhari thana Awami League leader, Belal Hossain Yousuf, Shah Pervez Salim, Wahed Biswas.

The speakers expressed deep concern at the continuous erosion of river Brahmaputra which rendered over thousand families homeless during the last two months.

The river erosion meanwhile, washed away three primary schools, one Tahsil office innumerable dwelling houses and landed properties. They further added that the people of eastern zone of Gaibandha

are the sufferers of river erosion for a pretty long time which turned serious since 1988 rendering many homeless. The speakers demanded arrest of wide spread erosion, rehabilitation of erosion victims and arrange for their

shelters, food and works. They handed over a memo to Deputy Commissioner Gaibandha. The processionists put barricade on Gaibandha Palashbari highway for sometimes disrupting road communications.



GAIBANDHA: About one hundred families have taken shelter on Kalapani embankment at Rasoolpur being driven out by erosion of river Brahmaputra. — Star photo

Timber worth Tk 3 lakh seized in Khagrachhari

From CHT Correspondent

JALIAPARA (Khagrachhari), July 30: The forest officials have here Sunday recovered illicit timbers worth about Taka three lakh and seized a truck allegedly for violating the Forest Transit Rules and carrying timbers beyond the transit pass cover, officials said.

In a routine check, the officials of Jaliapara Forest Tola and Check Station in Khagrachhari Forest Division recovered 460 cubic feet (cft) of valuable timbers which were being transited in a transit pass cover of 230 cft, sources said.

Housewife drowns

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, July 30: A housewife drowned in a pond at village Bhuyapara in Nandail thana on July 21. Azufa Begum, 25, wife of Abdul Hamid went to the pond for having a bath. Later her body was recovered from the pond.

One sentenced to 10 yrs RI for attempt to rape

From Our Correspondent

KISOREGANJ, July 30: A member of the security force serving in the army was found guilty and sentenced him to suffer RI for 10 years with a fine of Taka 5000 or in default to suffer RI for another one year, on charge of attempt of rape on a minor girl.

The convict, Abdul Mannan alias Kajal Mia, posted at Himchhari army camp in Cox's Bazar district has been absconding and was tried in absentia.



RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY: Prof M Eusuff Ali, VC of RU addressing a seminar titled, "problems of composing history of Bangla and Bangla literature of 20th century" organised by Institute of Bangladesh Studies (IBS) held at RU Senate hall recently. — Star photo

Stolen rail tracks worth Tk 5 lakh recovered

From Our Correspondent

FARIDPUR, July 30: A total of 58 pieces of steel rail tracks worth Taka five lakh were recovered in two separate raids conducted by the local people on July 15 and 17, witnesses said.

It is reported that a gang of miscreants stole away rails on different nights from the defunct rail-line running from Faridpur to Pukuria and kept them concealed in a pond at Bilmaudpur near Faridpur college rail station.

On July 15 while the miscreants were sending the rails by a truck bearing No-Narayanganj TA 62-0182 to elsewhere for selling, the villagers gheraoed the truck and

nabbed two miscreants named Shukur Kazi 50 and Khakon 28 and handed over them to Kotwali police.

Two days later on July 17, the villagers made vigorous search in presence of police and recovered 16 more rails from the same pond and deposited them to the Kotwali thana.

It may be mentioned here that the railway service from Faridpur to Pukuria has been suspended since 1990 and Railway Properties worth thousands of crores of Takas have been left since then including the miscreants to loot away the properties

Numerous border points in CHT 'open' for smugglers

From CHT Correspondent

KHAGRACHHARI, July 30: Acting on a tip, the Panchhari thana police has here Sunday recovered eight bags of Indian sugar allegedly smuggled and abandoned by the smugglers at Panchhari bazar in Panchhari thana of the district, police sources said.

Meanwhile, despite official bondage, different types of Indian products are being smuggled in daily through the numerous frontier points-of-four bordering thanas of the district almost unabatedly, local leaders and observers alleged.

A section of smugglers has allegedly been smuggling different kinds of Indian products including the daily necessities everyday through the different frontier points of Rangbar, Panchhari, Dighinala and Matiranga thanas of the district for marketing in the local bazars, sources observed.

The smuggling contrabands included timber and fish of various species, sugar, bi-cycles, paper, crockeries and cutleries, clothes, machineries-parts, drugs etc.

All the bazars at the thanas even in the district headquarters have been flooded with about one hundred kinds of Indian goods which are being sold openly without any hindrance, sources alleged, adding that the smugglers and the traders have been trading with the contrabands maintaining a dependable back-door liaison with the law enforcers and the agencies entrusted to look after it.

The frontier-points in Rangbar and Matiranga thanas of the district are being con-

sidered as the safe routes for timber, sugar and other Indian commodities smuggling. Whereas the routes in Panchhari thana are being dominated by the smugglers for fish as well as drugs smuggling, eye-witness social workers alleged.

Indian timber, sugar and fish of different species, especially, ruhi and katla are being smuggled in at random now-a-days, the Executive Editor of The Aranya Bara, a Khagrachhari based daily, Tarun Kumar Bhattacharjya said.

Extracted from Dumru Goda in Tripura state of India, the Indian smugglers reached these fish at Logang in Panchhari thana of the district, where from their Bangladeshi counter-parts carry those to different markets in the district by improvised jeep, locally known as 'Chander-garhee'. They also dispose of those even to Chittagong for more profit, Tarun observed.

A few unscrupulous identified traders of Khagrachhari district town has been running smuggling business through their employed agents on advance payment, Tarun added.

The Bangladesh Rifles deployed in the border-belt though has seized a few hundreds cubic feet of timber smuggled from India during the last three months, but could not be able to round up any smugglers, sources alleged.

To contain the continued smuggling, local leaders suggested to strengthen the border vigilance and step up surprise raid in the bazars and shops dealing the contrabands in the district.

Corpse of an outlawed party member recovered

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, July 30: Jhenidah police recovered the corpse of an activist of an outlawed party from the water of Putiar beel in Jhenidah sadar thana recently, police sources said.

According to reports, Abu Bakar, 35, of village Kalamankhali in sadar thana was abducted by some unknown persons in the night of July 10. He was returning home from a local hat. The miscreants brutally killed him and left the body in the water.

Smuggled Indian sugar, salt seized from mail train

From Our Correspondent

KUSHTIA, July 30: BDR in a raid in Jagoti Railway Station stopped a mail train bound for Daulatdia ghat on Monday and after searching recovered 15 maunds of Indian sugar and two maunds of Indian salt from several compartments.

Earlier on Sunday BDR conducted raid in Kushtia Court Railway station and stopped the same train and recovered huge quantity of Indian sugar, salt and other smuggled goods from different compartments of the train.

Minor boy drowns

JAMALPUR, July 30: A minor boy drowned in a pond at the Gouripur Kacharipara of the town on Saturday reports UNB.

The victim was identified as Rabi, 7, son of late Ratan Rishi of the town.

He met the tragic end while taking his bath at the pond. The villagers informed the guardians on seeing the body of the ill-fated boy floating.

Too many seats for too little students

From R K Goswami

MOULVIBAZAR, July 30: Many newly established colleges of Moulvibazar district may suffer from shortage of requisite number of students seeking admission as the expected successful candidates from the high-schools of the district who appeared in this year's SSC exam scored very disappointing result. It is also feared that some of the colleges may close down for this reason.

Only 18 percent students from high schools of the district came out successful in the SSC examination this year though the percentage of pass in Comilla Education Board was 47.02. As many as four thousand students of the district appeared in the SSC examination of 1996 under Comilla Education Board, of the examinees, only 750 students came out successful.

It is Moulvibazar Government High School, the only school of the district which shows better result with the percentage of 83.50. A total of 79 students of the school appeared in the examination of them 66 students came out successful. Of them 57 got first Division and two of them could enlist their name in the combined merit list. Results of other high schools of the district was very disappointing.

However, there are 19 colleges in Moulvibazar district. Number of well established colleges are only seven, government colleges. Rest 12 colleges were set up during the time when, percentage of pass in SSC examination was much higher.

During last two/three years, some high schools of the district expanded their classes up to Eleven and Twelve to accommodate the increasing number of successful SSC students.

Of the colleges in Moulvibazar district 4 in sadar

News from Rajshahi Univ.

New executive body of Oikkyatan elected

From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY, July 30: A 15-member executive body of Oikkyatan, a cultural organisation of Rajshahi University, has been elected recently for next one year tenure.

Seminar on role of comm on historic dev of agriculture

From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY, July 30: A seminar titled "Role of communication on historic development of agriculture" was held at Mass Communication Department of Rajshahi University on July 27.

Anthropologist Mark Reed, Professor of Department of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences of Newcastle University placed the key note paper in the seminar while Dulal Chandra Biswas, Selim Reza Newton and Quaberec Guayven took part in the discussion.

AGM of RUNRF held

From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY, July 30: The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Rajshahi University Newspaper Readers Forum (RUNRF) was held at Shahidullah Kolabhaban last week with its president Ali Reza Md Talha Tuhean in the chair.

Prof M Altaf Hussain Pro-VC of the university and chief adviser of RUNRF while speaking as chief guest appreciated the activities of the organisation for the development talent of the students. He stressed the need for attaching more students with this organisation.

Prof Faisal Islam Faruque, A K M Fayazul Haq also spoke in the opening session of AGM.



RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY: RU Players Welfare Association (RUPWA) brought out a silent procession in the campus to press home their 8-point demand recently. — Star photo

RUPWA brings out rally to realise its 8-point demand

From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY, July 30: The Rajshahi University Players Welfare Association (RUPWA) brought out a silent procession on the campus on July 27 to realize its 8 point demands.

The RUPWA's 8 point demand are, removal of police from the central gymnasium and to open it for players immediately, reconsider the punishment of three handball players, renovation of university swimming pool and naming of swimming pool after late swimmer Saiful Islam Nannu, relaxation of players admission rules, increase of one time scholarship, supply of modern equipment of sports to the players and to introduce of BP ED course under Rajshahi University.

About one hundred players took part in the procession with banners and festoons depicting their demand and paraded the campus.

Abdur Raquib Monto urged the authority to fulfil their demand shortly otherwise they would go to action programme. The RUPWA has already submitted a memorandum to the VC containing its demand.

PCP, RU unit demands arrest of kidnapper of Kalpana

From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY, July 30: The Bahari Chattria Parishad (Greater Chittagong Hill Tracts Hill Students Council), Rajshahi University unit demanded immediate arrest of the kidnappers of Kalpana Chakma, organising secretary of Hill Students Women Federation and punishment to the killers of Rupam Chakma.

Addressing at a press conference held at Rajshahi Press Club on Monday evening, the leaders of the Bahari Chattria Parishad demanded immediate rescue to Kalpana Chakma and compensation to the family of Rupam Chakma who was killed recently while he was protesting Kalpana's abduction.

The parishad's leaders also demanded proper security for the family of Kalpana Chakma and formation of a high powered probe body to investigate into the killing and kidnapping incidents.

The press conference were attended by Santosh Bikash Chakma, President, Bahari Chattria Parishad, RU unit and leaders of RU unit Animesh Chakma, Ripon Chakma, Mutiban Chakma, Ushamoy Tisha and others.

Loadshedding in campus, female students suffer

From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY, July 30: Frequent power failure at Rajshahi University have been causing immense suffering to the students for a long time. Almost everyday just after dark electricity in the campus go out and it continued for one to two hours at a stretch. Examinees and the students who cookmeal in their respective rooms are the worst sufferer of such unscheduled load shedding.

The female student who live in dormitories suffer most as they cook their meals in the room. Sometime, the students have to go outside the campus to have their meal.

The students demanded immediate solution to this problem.

One caught red-handed while stealing lab apparatus

From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY, July 30: One Nazrul Islam was caught red-handed here early this week while trying to steal scientific equipment from physics department laboratory. Later on the accused was handed over to the police the proctor of the university Prof M Nazrul Islam informed.



GAIBANDHA: Ten farmers piled up 500 bags of paddy in the premises of LSD godowns near collectorate office for sale since July 19 being refused by Food Department on the plea of low quality of grains and having high content of moisture. — Star photo