

## National

## News snaps

## AL leader's noble gesture

KHULNA, Aug 24: Naikgacha thana Awami League General Secretary Prof Afas Ali has set a good example of showing respect to the law of the land by handing over two of his brothers to the police, reports BSS.

Two brothers of Prof Ali implicated in a terrorist incident at village Putimari under Lata Union Parishad of Naikgacha thana here were absconding. Police arrested eight of 21 absconders. The two brothers were among 13 absconders. Being convinced of his brothers' involvement in the terrorist incident he handed over his brothers to the Naikgacha police a few days back.

## Bridge on Nandakura river opens

NATORE, Aug 24: LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman has said Tk 908 crore infrastructure development programme is being implemented to change the lot of rural people, reports UNB.

Inaugurating a 90-metre bridge on Nandakura river at Halsha on Friday, the minister said the money will be spent for poverty alleviation, environment and generating self-employment opportunities. He said farmers got bumper production of crops this year as the present pro-liberation government ensured fertilizer, seeds, pesticides and other agricultural inputs to the peasants at fair prices.

## Anti-drug trafficking measures

BARIDPUR, Aug 24: A meeting of the leading people of East Khabupur area of this town was held recently to build up social resistance against the drug addicts and phenisidyl trafficking, reports BSS.

The meeting, presided over by Abdul Hye Mia, an elderly social worker, was addressed, among others, by Md Motkar Molla, Md Mozahuddin, Md Shahidul Islam, Abdul Kadir Molla and Rezaul Karim. Speakers observed that phenisidyl trafficking and its use have taken an alarming turn in this area of the town. If preventive measures are not taken urgently then all the young boys would be ruined.

## 2 killed in Feni road accident

FENI, Aug 24: Two people were killed and 20 others injured when a passenger bus plunged into a roadside ditch at Mollaghat in Dagonbhuiyan thana recently, reports UNB.

Police said the Sonapur-bound bus from Chittagong fell into the ditch when its driver lost control of the steering. The driver, Mohammad Iqbal, 32, and an unidentified youth, aged about 20, died on the spot. The injured were admitted to Dagonbhuiyan Health Complex. A case was filed.

## Brickfields polluting environment

KUSHTIA, Aug 24: Brick-manufacturing enterprises have mushroomed all over the district posing threat to the environment and fertility of arable lands around the brickfields, reports UNB.

Witnesses said about 20,000 acres of croplands are being used for manufacturing brick, and the brickfield owners use trees indiscriminately as firewood. Farmers said agricultural productivity around the brickfields had declined in recent years due to loss of fertility of croplands. They allege that they are compelled to mortgage their lands to the brickfield owners as farm production has been on the decline.

## Peasants rally at Dohar

DOHAR, Aug 24: State Minister for Land Alhaj Rashed Mosharraf has said father of the nation Bangabandhu was the greatest friend of farmers as he did a lot for the welfare of them, reports UNB.

The minister was addressing as the chief guest at a peasants rally at Jaypara in Dohar thana of Dhaka district on Friday. Bangladesh Krishak League organised the rally in observance of the national mourning day. The meeting was addressed, among others, by Mizanur Rahman Manu MP, Marium Begum, M A Mannan, Harun-or-Rashid Hawlader, M Wadud, Advocate Mohammad Ali and Hashem Ali.

## Prize giving ceremony held

DINAJPUR, Aug 24: State Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Satish Chandra Roy has called upon all to project correctly the struggle for independence and the contribution of Bangabandhu to the present and future generation, reports UNB.

He was addressing at a prize-giving ceremony of an art competition organised by Dinajpur district unit of Bangabandhu Shishu Kishore Mela in observance of the 22nd death anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Presided over by Moniruzzaman Jewel, the function was addressed, among others, by Amjad Hossain, Deputy Commissioner Azizur Rahman, Police Super Sajjad Hossain and Altafuzzaman Mita.

## 3 violators get life term

COX'S BAZAR, Aug 24: A court here awarded three people, including a police constable, life term imprisonment, in absentia, in the Raushan Akhter rape and murder case on Thursday, reports UNB.

The court also fined police constable Abdul Malek of Ramu thana, Shahidul Haque and Nurunnabi Tk 5,000 each, in default, to suffer six months more. According to the prosecution Raushan Akhter became pregnant following an illicit relationship Nurunnabi. When Nurunnabi along with Raushan was going to a doctor to make abortion police constable Malek and Shahidul intercepted and abducted her. They violated her repeatedly and after murder threw the body into a canal.

## Farmers get agri-loan

NETRAKONA, Aug 24: Sonali Bank, Netrakona region under took a special agricultural loan disbursement programme in 10 thanas of Netrakona district during the last financial year.

Regional Manager of Sonali Bank Gulier Ahmed told BSS that under the programme, the bank disbursed Tk 2,90,11,000 as special agri-loan among over 10,000 farmers of the district. The bank disbursed the aforesaid agri-loan through its 10 branches under the region.

## Training on coop leadership

MANIKGANJ, Aug 24: A five-day long training course on 'cooperative leadership and management development' concluded here at the office of Manikganj Van Driver Cooperative Society Ltd on August 20, reports BSS.

AFM Yahiya Khan, District Cooperative Officer was present at the concluding function as the chief guest and distributed certificates among the trainees. The training course, organised by the Mobile Training Unit of district cooperative department, was participated by 47 members of Manikganj Van Driver Cooperative Society.

## Rice mills causing health hazards

NARAIL, Aug 24: The rice mills in rural and urban areas of the district have no boilers to pass smoke, reports UNB.

There are 100 rice mills at Rupganj, Tularampur, Hajipara, Singla, Naldi, Mithapur, Lohagara, Laksmi Pasha, Lahuria, Erava, Bordin, Digholia, Chenchuri, Kharalia, Peralia, Agdia, Kalia, Mirajpur, Singashole pur, Jamdai and Bangura bazaars on Narail district. These mills, located in roadside and residential areas, have been causing health hazards to the inhabitants, pedestrians and school children. The smoke, bran, dust, flame and ash of the ovens have been polluting the environment. Only one rice mill at Rupganj bazar has boiler.

## Contraband Indian goods seized

ISHURDI, Aug 24: Ishurdi thana police seized contraband Indian goods worth about Taka fifty three thousand from Ambari near Ishurdi bazar on August 20, reports BSS.

Police sources said, acting on a tip-off a police team raided Ishurdi bazar and seized the Indian goods from Ambangi. The Indian goods included 245 pieces of cotton clothes, 7 blouse pieces and 25 metre poplin. The seized contraband goods were deposited with the Customs authorities. None was arrested in this connection.

## Best teachers of Madaripur

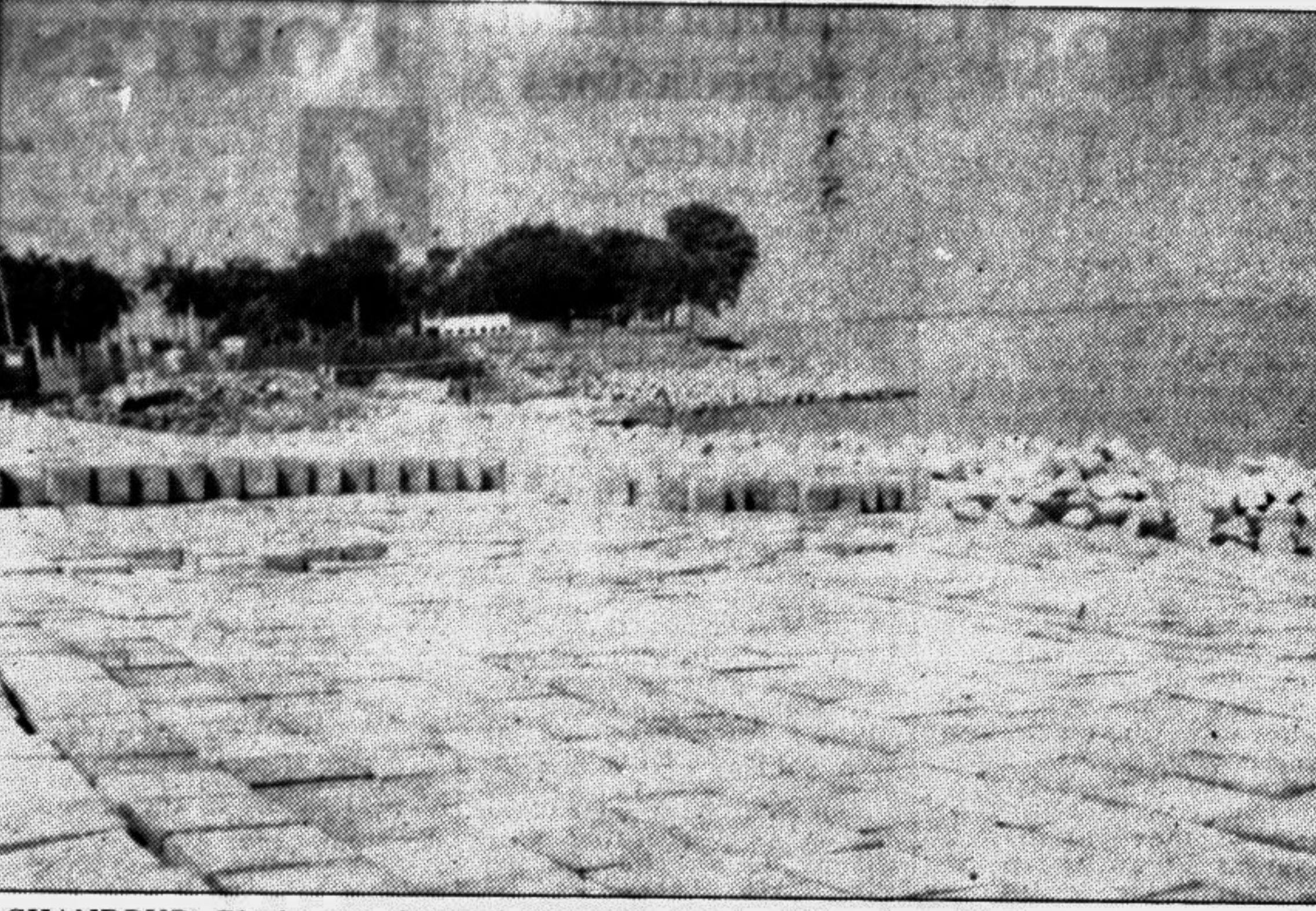
MADRIPUR, Aug 24: Sardar Abdul Fazal, Principal of Charmuguria College and Abdul Haq Mia, Headmaster of Mustafapur High School in sadar thana have been adjudged as the best college teacher and secondary teacher respectively in Madaripur sadar thana, reports BSS.

The selection was announced in the National Education Week '97 observed here recently.

## 3 commit suicide in Satkhira

SATKHIRA, Aug 24: Three persons allegedly committed suicide in two thanas of the district during the last two days, police said, reports BSS.

The victims were identified as Salma Khatun, 18, of village Bhabanipur and Khorshed Ali, 24, of village Goalachar under Kalaroa thana. They committed suicide by taking endrine following their family feuds. Another victim, Sakina Khatun, 65, of village South Fingri under sadar thana committed suicide by hanging herself with the ceiling of her house. She had been suffering from different diseases.



CHANDPUR: Blocks are dumped along the bank of the river Meghna as measures to protect the district town from erosion of the river. — Star photo

## Law, order situation worsens in 2 dists

By Staff Correspondent

Security of life and property has been endangered following deterioration of law and order situation in Meherpur and Gopalganj districts recently.

Our Meherpur Correspondent says: The peace-loving people of the district have been passing their days in fear of terrorism. Untoward incidents, free-style activities of terrorists, murder in day light, stabbing, rape, hijacking, toll collection and violence have become common in the district.

According to sources, in one month there were seven murders, one abduction, two hijacking incidents, six dacoities, seven thefts and one rape.

Here is a picture of crimes committed from June 8 to July 10 this year. On June 9 Amjad, a college student was stabbed to death by his classmate at Natunpara in the town. On June 11, Masud, a young man was killed by his rival group with sharp weapons in village Laxmi Narayapur Dhala under Gangni thana when a salts meeting was being held. On June 15, Murshid, 14, was killed in village Dafarpur. Police could not unveil the cause of the murder. A theft was committed in a shop of motor parts belonging to Akkas Ali at the local bus stand area. On June 19, Rabul of village Dhankhola under Gangni thana killed his wife Afroza Khatun for dowry. On the same day Selina Khatun, 35, widow and daughter late Ismail Hossain was abducted from village Rajapur under Gangni thana. Later she was killed following rape. On June 25, incidents of tender snatching happened in the offices of Local Government

Police arrested 25 persons after a dacoity in the house of VTII Super, but 20 of them have already been released for want of proof.

However, the local people alleged, police are not so active to subdue terrorism.

Our Gopalganj Correspondent reports: Crimes are on rise in the district in these days.

According to official statistics, a total number of 408 cases were registered with the five thanas in the district from January to July 31 this year.

Gopalganj thana sources informed, a total number of 175 cases were lodged with this thana in last seven months. The cases included three cases of dacoity, 11 of burglary, two of murder, four of smuggling, two of robbery, two of rape, one of abduction, one of rioting, four of cruelty to women and 15 cases of different other offences were lodged with the thana.

The rate of registration of criminal cases with all the five thanas of Gopalganj district has increased during the period.

Kotalipara thana sources said, one case of dacoity, four cases of burglary, one case of rioting, one of cruelty to women and 26 of different other offences have been committed. A total number of 33 cases were registered with Kotalipara thana in aforementioned period.

According to Tungipara thana police sources, a total number of 25 cases were registered with Tungipara thana of the district, in last seven months. One case of robbery, four of burglary, two cases of rioting, one of smuggling, two cases of cruelty to women and 15 cases of different other offences were registered.

A total number of 79 cases were registered with Kasiani thana in last seven months. Two cases of dacoity, two cases of robbery, five cases of burglary, one of murder, one case of rioting resulting in murder, one case of rape, seven cases of rioting, three cases of cruelty to women and 55 cases of different other offences have been committed, according to Kasiani thana sources.

Muksudpur thana sources said, total number of 96 cases were registered with Muksudpur thana in last seven months. One case of murder, two cases of rioting, 10 cases of burglary three cases of rioting resulting in murder, one case of possessing drug and 79 cases of different other offences were lodged with the thana.

The rate of registration of criminal cases with all the five thanas of Gopalganj district has increased during the period.



RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY: Admission test of first year honours classes for 1996-97 session progressing. Prof Abdul Khaleque visited the examination hall. — Star photo

## Child marriages up in villages of Magura

From Our Correspondent

Muhammadpur, Shalikha and Magura sadar.

There is a strict law that no girl below the age of 18 years and boy below the age of 22 years can be united in wedlock. But this law is not implemented at all. As a result, a good number of marriage are being held between the below aged couples.

A group of illiterate poor parents of remote villages in the district are compelled to arrange early marriage of their sons and girls is increasing in the rural areas in four thanas of the district. The thanas are: Sripur,

From Our Correspondent

is very high. Chaturia, Bagbaria, Sabinagar are such villages in the district. The primary school-going students in these areas are also united in wedlock by the arrangement of the guardians.

When contacted some social workers in Sripur thana told the correspondent literate parents are not interested in arranging early marriage. But they are compelled to settle early marriage of their sons and daughters due to unavoidable circumstances.

About 60 per cent child marriages are solemnised in poor families. The heads of these families are usually labourers or landless farmers. They live from hand to mouth. As a result, they can not arrange education for their children, though the government took up a scheme of Universal Education Programme for all children. In fact, their programme is not implemented in the rural areas of the district.

According to an allegation of Liver Brothers (BD) Ltd, local police traced the fake-factory at Kalyani village and nabbed its owner Azizul Haque, 50. Police also seized some machinery of the factory and fake soap items.

There are some villages in every union of the district where the rate of early marriage

## BAU classes from Sept 2

MYMENSINGH, Aug 24: Classes of the freshers in different faculties of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) of the 1996-97 session will begin on Tuesday (Sept 2), reports UNB.

An orientation course for all the newly admitted first year BAU students will be held at the university's Shilpacharya Joynal Abedin auditorium on Monday (Sept 1) at 10:30 am, according to a BAU press release.

It said the orientation course for the resident students will be held at the auditoriums of their respective dormitories in the evening on the same day.

BAU authorities have urged the students to attend the classes as well as other programmes relevant with the university curriculum.

If any student fails to attend the classes within 30 days of beginning, his/her admission will be automatically cancelled as per provision of the university Ordinance, according to a notification of the Registrar's office.

New committee of Kalaroa thana Mohila AL

SATKHIRA, Aug 24: A conference of Kalaroa thana Mohila Awami League was held at Kalaroa thana Awami League office recently, reports BSS.

Convenor of Satkhira district Mohila Awami League Rifaat Amin was present in the conference as the chief guest.

Rabea Nazrul and Shila Rani were elected president and general secretary respectively of Kalaroa thana Mohila Awami League, according to a party press release.

According to the statistics, a total 15 big and small markets were erected in different remote areas of Fulchari thana. All of those markets are situated on government khas land. Influential quarters around the hats and bazaars have already grabbed spaces.

There is no outlet arrangement of rain water in those village markets. There is no shelter for the buyers and sellers. There is no specific place for slaughtering of cattle in the

## Gaibandha Newsletter

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, Aug 24: One person was crushed under the wheels of a running truck recently.

The victim, Amjad Hossain met the unnatural death at Thutipukur on Gaibandha-Palashbari highway.

According to eye-witnesses the victim together with his fellow mate while crossing the road one Gaibandha bound truck hit the victim from behind and crushed him under its wheels. The killer truck managed to flee. The victim was an inhabitant of village Burjibistupur under Palashbari thana. A case was filed with Palashbari thana.

Rural bazars in bad shape

People of Fulchari thana have been facing untold suffering due to lack of renovation of rural hats and bazaars, it has been alleged.

According to Narcotics

Control Department in a drive recovered 16 pieces of hashish plants from village Malibari under Gaibandha sadar thana recently.

On receiving an information a contingent of Narcotics Department led by Inspector Azamra Ali, raided the house of Akbar Ali of village Malibari under the sadar thana. They recovered 16 pieces of hashish plants cultivated in the home- stead illegally.

According to Narcotics Department source the price of seized hashish was Taka 10,000. A case was filed with the sadar thana. None was arrested in this connection.

## RHD Short Tender Invitation Corrigendum Notice

It is hereby notified for information of all that this office Tender Notice No.1-NA (1997-98) was issued fixing the dates of selling & receiving/opening tender on 25-8-97/10-5-1404 BS & 26-8-97/11-5-1404 BS respectively. But due to declaring 25th August '97 instead of earlier declared 24th August '97 as general govt holiday on the occasion of Hindu festival Janmastami, the last date of selling tender is fixed on 26-8-97/11-5-1404 BS instead of 25-8-97/10-5-1404BS and the date of receiving/opening tender is fixed on 27-8-97/12-5-1404BS instead of 26-8-97/11-5-97.