

News snaps

1 killed in Khagrachhari road mishap
 KHAGRACHHARI, Sept 27: One person died on the spot and 15 others were injured when a bus turned turtle at Atalita, five miles from here, on Khagrachhari-Dighinala road recently, reports BSS.
 Witnesses said the victim was identified as Suresh Tripra, 65. Several fatally injured persons have been admitted to Khagrachhari Sadar Hospital. A case has been filed in this connection. The driver of the bus was arrested.

WDB implements 11 uplift projects
 PATUAKHALI, Sept 27: Water Development Board (WDB) implemented 11 development projects in the district during 1996-97 fiscal year under Food For Work Programme, reports UNB.
 Official sources said 3,400 metric tons of wheat were utilized for the implementation of the projects. These included construction of a 61-km embankment and repairing of embankments in the coastal areas of district. With the completion of the projects, 6,000 acres of agricultural land in Mirzaganj, Galachipa, Kalapara and Sadar thana of the district have been protected from flash flood and salinity.

Seminar on Islamic economy
 MANIKGANJ, Sept 27: A seminar on "Islamic Economy and Banking" was held here recently with a call to establish an interest-free banking system for overall welfare of the society, reports UNB.
 Islamic Economics Research Bureau and Islamic Bank Bangladesh jointly organised the seminar at Manikganj Government High School. Deputy Chief of Bangladesh Planning Commission Dr SM Ali Akkas presented the key-note paper in the seminar chaired by president, executive committee of the two organisations, Mir Qasem Ali. Deputy Commissioner M Abdur Razzak attended as the chief guest while ADC M Harun Chowdhury and M Tajul Islam were present as special guests.

BCL workers clash with cops: 6 hurt
 MAGURA, Sept 27: A clash between police and pro-Awami League Chhatra League workers in the town left six activists injured recently, reports UNB.
 The clash ensued when BCL activists went to the police super office to submit a memorandum protesting the arrest of BCL worker Kamrul Islam in a case. Later, at a press conference, district BCL President Abu Reza Paltu alleged that the clash was the result of the police attack in which they beat their workers and fired two blank shots without any provocation. BCL leaders said Kamrul was arrested in a false case and demanded transfer of the Police Super of the district. They also demanded probe into the incident.

2 pry school bldgs in bad shape
 COMILLA, Sept 27: Two primary school buildings in Daudkandi thana are in bad shape and classes are going on with high risk, reports UNB.
 Local people said the school buildings of Gouripur West Government Primary School and Pennal Government Primary School may collapse any moment. Teachers and students often sustain injuries following the fall of plasters from the roof during the class hours. After repeated complaints to the higher authorities, no measures have yet been taken to renovate the school buildings.

One electrocuted in Jhalakati
 From Staff Correspondent
 BARISAL, Sept 27: One person was electrocuted and died on the spot at Krislina Kati village under sadar thana of Jhalakati recently.
 Witnesses said Aminul Islam (32), was electrocuted and died on the spot instantaneously when he was connecting a live electric wire with another one in his house at about 10 pm at night. Aminul Islam, a Bangladesh Railway employee now was on leave and was staying at his home in Jhalakati.

6 dacoits get jail term
 SIRAJGANJ, Sept 27: Six people were convicted and sentenced to suffer rigorous imprisonment (RI) here recently for committing a dacoity, reports UNB.
 According to court sources, convicted Abul Kashem, Rafiq and Abu Bakar were awarded nine years and the rest Razzak, Rashid and Abu Sayed six years imprisonment. According to the prosecution story, a case was filed against them for committing a dacoity at a house of one Belal Hossain of village Naoga in Raiganj thana on July 1, 1992. After examining the witnesses and records Assistant District and Sessions Judge Mirza Abdur Rouf awarded the punishment.

Kidnapped girl rescued
 SATKHIRA, Sept 27: Shyamnagar police managed to rescue a girl, kidnapped two months ago, from Jhikargacha thana of Jessore recently, reports UNB.
 According to police, the victim Anjura Khatoun, 16, daughter of Rahatullah of village Badkati in Shyamnagar thana was kidnapped on the night of July 8 by some miscreants when she went out of her room to respond to the call of nature. Acting on a tip-off, police raided the house of Abdul Hakim and rescued the girl. A case has been filed with the police.

Valuables worth Tk 4 lakh looted
 SYLHET, Sept 27: A gang of dacoits looted valuables worth about Tk 4 lakh from a house at Sheikhpura in the town recently, reports UNB.
 Police said the gang entered into the house of Dr Mahmud Ullah at 3 am and took away valuables at gun point. With this, five dacoities were committed in the town in one month causing panic among the dwellers. A case has been filed with the Kotwali police.

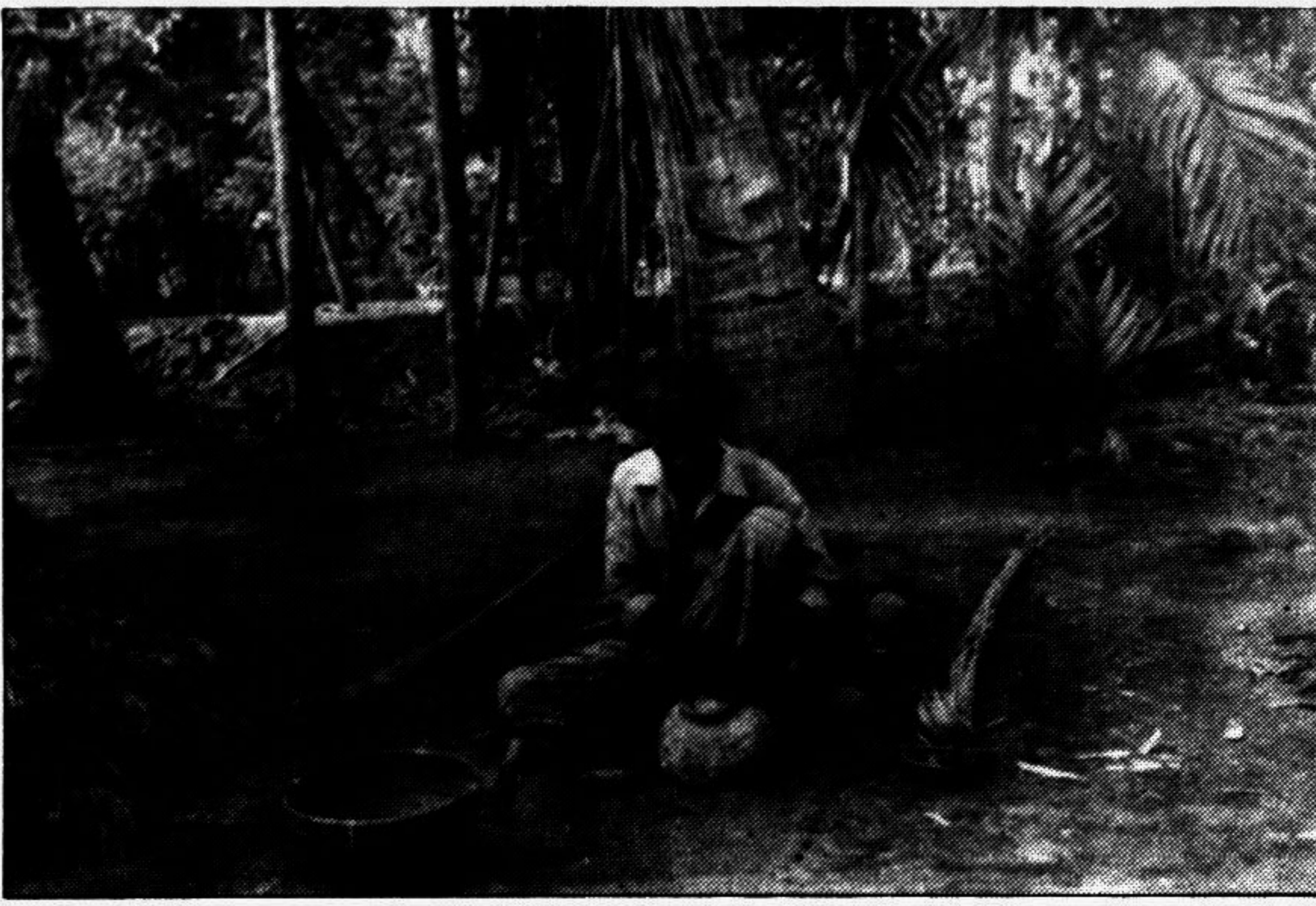
Arsenic detected in water in Jhalakati
 JHALAKATI, Sept 27: High level arsenic contamination was found in waters of four shallow tubewells in the district, according to a report of Public Health Engineering Department, reports UNB.
 The report reached here from the Khulna PHED regional laboratory showed that water of four shallow tubewells in Nalchiti, sadar and Rajapur thanas contained arsenic above the acceptable level of 0.01 milligram. Water samples from 12 shallow tubewells and one deep-tubewell of these thanas were sent to the Khulna laboratory a few months back.

AED organises orientation course
 MADARIPUR, Sept 27: A three-day long orientation course on the new agricultural extension policy organised by the Agricultural Extension Department (AED) concluded here recently, reports BSS.
 The course was conducted by Agricultural Extension Officer, Madaripur Md Mozammel Huq and Subject Matter Specialist Md Abdul Hakim. Sixteen persons including thana agriculture officers and field workers took part in the course.

Girl rescued
 JAMALPUR, Sept 27: Police rescued a girl from a local clinic in the town on Wednesday and arrested her father on charge of filing a false abduction case against his opponents, reports UNB.
 According to police, Motiur Rahman lodged a case with Sadar thana against eight people including his co-villagers Shukon, Mamun and Shahjahan alleging that they have abducted his school-going daughter Sultana Razia Shimuli, 15. Motiur also mentioned in his complaint that Shimuli remained missing from her house at Raghunathpur Dighuli in Sadar thana since May 31. On the basis of the complaint, police arrested Shahjahan and following the rejection of his bail prayer by the court he was sent to jail. Police, at last, rescued the girl from the Punom Nursing Home at Medical road in the town and arrested her father.

2 killed by thunderbolt in Madaripur
 MADARIPUR, Sept 27: A man and his three-year-old daughter met their tragic end while a thunderbolt struck them at their village home in Sadar thana on Saturday, reports UNB.
 The deceased were identified as Abdul Haque, 30, and his daughter Dalia, 3, of village Chhyana in the thana. The tragic incident occurred while they were taking breakfast at their residence.

24 uplift projects progressing in Bhola
 BHOLA, Sept 27: Twenty-four development projects, involving Tk 85.51 lakh, are being implemented in the district under the annual development programme of the 1996-97 fiscal, reports UNB.
 According to Bhola Zilla Parishad, 10 development projects are being implemented at a cost of Tk 12.16 lakh mobilised from its own resources. Fourteen other projects are in progress at a cost of Tk 73.35 lakh disbursed from the annual development fund of the government. The projects included construction of small bridge, culvert, and road.



MAGURA: One of those bamboo and cane craftsmen who have long been able to make a living. Today, prices of their raw material are abnormally high, forcing many of them to leave the trade they have learnt for ages. They say they need support, from government and banks. They are in real bad shape. — Star Photo

Substandard drugs flood markets in Kushtia

From Our Correspondent
 KUSHTIA, Sept 27: Substandard life saving drugs have flooded the markets of the district with impunity for a long time.
 It is alleged that worms, fungus flies are often found in many drug containers including saline and injection. Mushroom growth of drug companies are responsible for the manufacturing of substandard drugs. Many Homeopath Laboratories without having any license are also producing liquid drugs. These companies have no legal permission to sell the products. But they sell their products in popular business centres. A section of physicians have allegedly been patronising the sale of substandard medicines by prescribing such drugs to the patients on the request of drug dealers.
 Besides, quacks also prescribe their patients to use these medicines as they are available at cheaper rates. These unlicensed medicine shops have been established in both rural and urban areas. The number of quacks has also been increased in the six thanas of the district. Quacks are on rise in village hats and bazars. It is learnt that majority of youths being disappointed have become quacks in rural areas. A few of them who have basic training on health care. A large number of graduates and young boys who passed SSC and HSC are taking up this unscrupulous profession. Some government health workers are also found practising the business of quacks in rural areas throughout the district. The quacks have been increasing mainly due to absence of medicare facilities at health complexes. Poor, landless and labourers who can hardly afford medical treatment at the hospitals seek help from these quacks who charge fees much cheaper. A section of doctors and other staff of the hospitals realise gratification from the poor patients for providing prescription and medical treatment. Being harassed by them the helpless poor patients go to the quacks instead of going to health complex as communication system to these health complexes is also hazardous.

People deprived of medicare facilities in Natore dist

NATORE, Sept 27: About 15 lakh people of the district are being deprived of medicare facilities as the Modernised Natore Sadar Hospital is beset with manifold problem, reports UNB.
 The problems include shortage of physicians, medicines, beds, lack of modern diagnostic instruments, pathological facilities and ambulance services. The hospital was established during the British regime in 1947 with 20-bed and later it was upgraded to a 30-bed hospital.
 A scheme was taken to increase the beds of the hospital and provide modern medicare facilities during the previous government. But, except a two-storied building, nothing has been implemented.
 On an average 300 patients visit the hospital from far flung areas of the district everyday with a hope to get proper treatment, but most of them have to go back without treatment due to shortage of doctors and medicines.
 The scarcity of life-saving drugs is an acute problem of the hospital. The patients, who got chance to be admitted, are compelled to buy necessary medicine from outside at a high price.
 Moreover, due to lack of instruments and technicians in the pathological labs, patients are often advised to do the tests from outside.
 Private pathological labs and clinics are doing brisk business as the hospital doctors advise the patients to perform their tests in some particular labs.
 It is alleged that physicians are reluctant to attend the admitted patients. They are found busy with their private practice in their private chamber or in clinics.
 Patients in most cases are advised to go to some particular clinics or diagnostic centres for any surgical consultation, test and treatment.
 The diet supplied to the patients is said to be low quality. Hospital sources said, they have nothing to do as the number of patients are two or three times higher than the capacity. No extra funds were allocated for the increasing number of patients.

Rural people deprived of basic amenities at Fulchhari Bazaar

From Our Correspondent
 GAIBANDHA, Sept 27: People of Fulchhari thana have been suffering a lot due to bad shape of bazaars. The local market is yet to be renovated despite realisation of revenue by the concerned authority.
 According to statistics, there are 15 small and big hats and bazaars in and around Fulchhari thana where thousands of people rush everyday for shopping. Rural people sell different essential items, including agricultural products. The khus lands around the market are already grabbed by influential quarters. During rainy season, people are to face immense trouble as the market places remain covered with thick mud and water. There is no shelter of people during heavy shower.
 Besides, the butchers are found slaughtering cattle according to their will. In absence of slaughtering house they throw away useless part of animals here and there which creates health hazard. People have no access to pure drinking water as the local authority do not sink any tube-well despite repeated appeals, it has blew.
 Most open spaces are usually occupied by shop owners. The practice is increasing day by day. Unauthorized occupiers pay a high amount gratification to market committee. As such, vegetables, fish, poultry and milk and other moveable vendors do not get adequate space for their petty businesses.
 There is no arrangement of toilet facilities in the market. As such people use the open spaces around the markets during the call of nature resulting in pollution of environment.
 Toll collectors are found active in the market. They often charges high amount from the vendors. Clash and quarrel between the vendors and toll collectors are very common.

1 to die for killing wife

From Staff Correspondent
 BARISAL, Sept 27: One person has recently been awarded death sentence for killing his wife.
 Md Araesh Uddin, Judge for the special court of the Woman and Child Repression Control Act (Special Law) of 1995 of Barisal awarded death sentence by hanging to Probat Kumar Halder for killing his wife for dowry.
 In a crowded court here recently the judge announced the death penalty.
 The death sentence is the first under this law in this region. Other 5 accused persons of the case have been acquitted. They are: Abinash Halder, Dilip Halder, Laltu Halder, Bani Halder and Profulla Gain.
 The case history in brief is: Swapna Sarker, 16, daughter of Rabindra Nath Sarker was married to Probat Kumar Halder of Andharmanik village under Uzirpur thana in the district on May 25 last year. On that day, according to commitment Taka 30 thousand taka out of Taka 50 thousand was paid to Probat Kumar as dowry. The rest amount was committed to be paid within next one month. Probat refused this term and condition. But he took Swapna, his wife in his home after the marriage.
 On May 31 Swapna was killed in the night and her deadbody was hanged with a tree beside the house. Probat said, Swapna committed suicide.
 Rabindra Nath Sarker, father of Swapna, lodged a case against 6 per sons with Uzirpur thana. Police chargesheeted against Probat excluding 5 others who were later called by the court.
 The judge examining 10 witnesses pronounced this verdict. Trial of Probat Kumar Halder was held here in his absence as he has been absconding.
 Advocate Golam Abbas Chowdhury Dular, PP appeared the court in favour of the victim while Adv Mokhlesur Rahman Khan for Probat Kumar appointed by the govt.

2 JCD workers held on charge of snatching

SIRAJGANJ, Sept 27: Police arrested nine people on charges of killing and snatching, including two JCD workers, during a drive here today, reports UNB.
 Two of them, accused in a murder case two years back at Shalabari village, were identified as Kalachan and his brother Abdur Razzak. The JCD workers arrested on snatching charge are Hafizul and Akkas Ali.
 Sadar thana OC Jabid Hasan led the operation in different parts of the town and nabbed the alleged criminals.

Faces of talents

By Staff Correspondent
 Here are the faces of talents who secured top positions in the Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) examinations from Rajshahi and Jessore education boards this year.
 Our Pabna Correspondent says: A total of 15 HSC examinees from different colleges of Pabna district secured top places in the merit list of Rajshahi Board this year.
 Seven top places were occupied by the examinees of Pabna Cadet College in the Combined Merit List. Two others from the same college occupied top positions in the Humanities group.
 They are: Abdullah al-Hafiz, son of Mozbar Rahman of Shyampur, Rajshahi. He scored 942 marks with letters in English, Mathematics Physics, Chemistry and Engineering drawing capturing the first place.
 S M Mustafizul Haque, son of Nurul Haque of Mymensingh, stood third by securing 913 marks with letters in Physics, Chemistry and Engineering drawing.
 SM Aminul Haque, son of Sheikh Md Emdadul Haque of Asadpara, Pabna, stood 12th obtaining 886 marks with letters in Physics, Chemistry and Engineering drawing.
 Ahmad Ali, son of Akhteruzzaman of IPGM, Dhaka stood 13th securing 885 marks with letters in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Engineering drawing.
 Nazmul Islam, son of late Zahurul Islam of Mahiganj, Rangpur, stood 15th obtaining 879 marks with letters in Physics, Chemistry and Engineering drawing.
 Ibtne Marzatul Khaled, son of Abdul Khaleque of Mymensingh stood 19th securing 871 marks with letters in Physics, Chemistry and Engineering drawing.
 Mohammad Hasanuzzaman of Mahiganj, Rangpur, stood third securing 846 marks with letters in Geography.
 Ziaur Rahman, son of Hazi Abdus Sattar of Sakhtira secured 8th place obtaining 816 marks with letter in two subjects.
 These two examinees appeared from Pabna Cadet College from the Social Science group.
 Mariam Firdous, daughter of Abdul Jalil, a retired Assistant Teacher of a Government Primary School of Sujanganar, Pabna, stood first in the Commerce group from Sujanganar Nizamuddin Azgar Ali College. She scored 802 marks with letters in several subjects. Anura Kumar Kundu, son of Suresh Chandra Kundu of Sujanganar, appeared from the same college. He stood 19th obtaining 717 marks and one letter in the Commerce group.
 From Satbaria College, Aminul Islam stood 15th in the Commerce group obtaining 731 marks with one letter. Rafiqul Islam of the same college stood 16th obtaining 726 marks and Nazmul Haque from Satbaria College scored 721 marks obtained 18th place.
 Mohammad Saiful Islam of Dr Zahurul Kamal College of Dulai, Pabna stood fourth in the Commerce group scoring 779 marks with one letter.
 Our Jhenidah Correspondent says, Toufique Hassan Tajin of Jhenidah Cadet College stood first in combined merit list in HSC examination scoring 964 marks from Jessore Board this year. Tajin secured five letters in English, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Engineering Drawing. Tajin's father KAMA Mannan is Deputy Chief Extension Officer of National Small Irrigation Development Project. Tajin's hobby is reading books and listening to song. He wants to be an Army officer.
 Md Manirul Haque of Jhenidah Cadet College stood second in HSC examination from Jessore Board this year. He scored 913 marks in Physics, Chemistry Mathematics and Engineering Drawing. He scored 950 marks. Haque's father Md Rezaul Haque is a retired Major. His hobby is stamp collection. Haque wants to serve the nation by joining Army.
 Cadet Mohammad Ahammaduzzaman of Jhenidah Cadet College stood 4th in combined merit list in HSC examination from Jessore Board this year. Ahamad scored 942 marks with letter marks in Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics and Engineering Drawing. Ahamad's father Anwar Hossain is a businessman at Lalidighirpar in Jessore town. Ahamad's hobby is reading books. He wants to join the Army.
 Mohammad Shafiqul Islam of Jhenidah Cadet College stood 8th in combined merit list in HSC examination from Jessore Board this year. He scored 904 marks with letter marks in Physics, Chemistry and Statistics. Shafiqul's father Abul Hossain is a businessman of Rukudhia in Barisal district. His hobby is reading novels. He wants to serve the nation by joining Army.
 Cadet Abdur Razaque of Jhenidah Cadet College stood 14th in HSC examination from Jessore Board this year. He scored 876 marks with letter in Physics, Chemistry and Engineering Drawing. Razaque's father Md Ali Akbar is a trader at Barandipara in Jessore town. His hobby is reading books. He intends to join the Army.
 Khondakar Habibul Kabir of Jhenidah Cadet College stood 17th in combined merit list in HSC examination scoring 871 marks from Jessore Board this year. He got letter marks in Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics and Statistics. His hobby is reading books and listening to music. Kabir's father Khondakar Shakhawat Hossain alias Hiltu Mia is a noted trader of Jhenidah town. Kabir wants to join the Army.
 SM Anusuzzaman of Jhenidah Cadet College stood 18th in the combined merit list in HSC examination from Jessore Board this year. He scored 868 marks with letter marks in Physics, Chemistry and Biology. His hobby is reading books and gardening. He wants to serve the nation by joining the Army. Anis's father Mohammad Ayenuddin is a government employee in Narayanganj.
 Mohaminad Qamruzzaman of Jhenidah Cadet College stood 19th from Science Group scoring 866 marks in HSC examination from Jessore Board this year. His bagged letter marks in Physics, Chemistry and Engineering Drawing. His hobby is reading novels. He desires to serve the nation by joining the Army.

Indian boy handed over to BSF

From Staff Correspondent
 SYLHET, Sept 27: The ten-year old Indian boy who entered into the Bangladesh territory and fell in the clutches of a gang of alleged miscreants was handed over to the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) on Tuesday.
 Masud, 10, son of Late Mokbul Ali of village Shakhairab under Dharmnagar thana of Tripura crossed the border and came to the Fultala bazar of Kulara thana out of curiosity on September 15.
 A group of people made him unconscious by feeding some light food and took him on a microbus and proceeded towards Sylhet town. When the vehicle reached Biswanath thana area, Masud regained his senses and managed to escape when the microbus halted at a place on the Dhaka-Sylhet Highway, official sources said.
 Some local people handed him over to Biswanath police who, on September 22, sent him to Kulara police. The boy was handed over to the BSF by the BDR at Fultala border outpost.

BCL factions clash Sec 144 at Madaripur

MADARIPUR, Sept 27: Section 144 has been imposed on the district headquarters for indefinite period amid speculation that law and order may deteriorate, reports UNB.
 District Magistrate Sharif Toyebur Rahman passed the order following a series of clashes between two rival factions of pro-Awami League Chhatra League on Sunday and Monday.
 Six activists of the ruling party's student front were injured while a number of houses and shops damaged during the trouble. Two people were arrested in this connection.
 Police raided the residence of Shahjahan Khan MP in a bid to detain suspected terrorists. None was arrested.

Woman killed in bomb blast Jubo League workers clash with cops in Khulna

From Staff Correspondent
 KHULNA, Sept 27: Four women were killed and four others including a policeman were seriously injured in bomb blasts on Sunday evening at Shaikhpura under Sonadanga thana.
 The injured persons were admitted to Khulna Medical College Hospital (KMCH) in a critical condition. Police arrested seven young men belonging to Jubo League and recovered from them a revolver, a short gun, 22 hand bombs and four rounds of ammunition.
 Police said Jubo League activists launched an attack with hand bombs when police raided their hideout at Shaikhpura Baganbari. One woman who was passing received bomb injuries and succumbed a few minutes after her admission at KMCH. Eye witnesses said police opened blank fire in self-defence. Arrested Jubo League activists are Mamun, Mobarak, Rezaul, Swapan, Moad, Shahabuddin and Badal. Two separate cases, one for murder and another under Arms Act, have been lodged with Sonadanga thana.

Shopowners on strike in Jhenidah

JHENIDAH, Sept 27: The shopowners in the town went on an indefinite strike from Sunday noon protesting the attack on a bedding store by the miscreants in the morning, reports UNB.
 Witnesses said the owner of Dhaka Bedding Store sustained serious injuries when some unruly processionists attacked his shop.
 Following the incident, the Shopowners' Association in an emergency meeting decided to observe the strike and demanded arrest of the attackers.

Another report said: Sraniak Oikya Parishad here demanded arrest and trial of the killers of their worker Akbar Ali at a protest rally in the town's Agrani Bank Square on Monday.

JCD-BCL clash at Brindaban College: 10 hurt

HABIGANJ, Sept 27: At least 10 students were injured in a clash between the activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League and Jatijabadi Chhatra Dal at Government Brindaban College here today, reports UNB.
 The clash began when BCL-men attacked a JCD demonstration on the campus this noon. Both the groups blasted crackers during the chase and counter chase.
 Later, BCL activists allegedly attacked Rajnagar Quarters residence of JCD district unit general secretary Dewan Abdul Mukaddis Newaz.

Property worth Tk 20 lakh gutted
 FENI, Sept 27: Property worth about Tk 20 lakh were gutted in a fire at Chaganaiya College Road in the town this morning, reports UNB.
 Witnesses said the fire broke out in a tea stall and soon engulfed the nearby shops. The origin of the fire could not be known.



RAJSHAHI: Rajshahi City Mayor Mizanur Rahman Minu handing over a Fax machine to the President of Rajshahi City Press Club Abdul Wadood at a function held recently. — Star photo