

News snaps

40 people of bridal party hurt in clash

NARAIL, Feb 11: At least 40 people of a bridal party, including the bridegroom, were injured allegedly by their host over speaking English during the altercation at Chorkotakol village in Lohagara thana, police said, reports UNB.

Of the injured, bridegroom Jakir Hussain, 25, from Pachuria village in Mollieckpur union of the thana and his men Walliur Rahman, 40, Helal, 25, Mannan, 20, and Mashur Rahman, 20, were admitted to Lohagara thana health complex. Local people said the incident took place on Feb 4 when some youths including young ladies made a bar at the gate and demanded gate money from bridegroom party who came to bride's father's house to take the bride with them. At one stage of altercation the bride's party members swooped on them with lethal weapons when they tried to convince them in English. The miscreants during the attack looted cash and gold ornaments worth about Tk 60,000 from the bridegroom's party.

Dacoity committed

From Our Correspondent

RANGPUR, Feb 11: A dacoity was committed in the house of a cloth trader at Ekbarpur village under Pirgonj thana recently.

The miscreants numbering about 10/15 equipped with *lathis* and deadly weapons entered inside the house by breaking doors at night and tied up the male members of the house. They severely beaten up them and later on looted away cash money and ornaments worth Taka 50,000, the family members of the house said. A case has been registered with police.

Night coach service resumes

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, Feb 11: All the five Dhaka-bound night coach services of Gaibandha resumed after closure for one day on February 3 following clash between unruly youth and bus labourers which left six injured.

Labour union, however, demanded to arrest terrorists involved in this incident and gave ultimatum to launch greater movement if the demand is not fulfilled. But due to intervention of district administration and assurance of justice the coach services were resumed from February 4.

Oath taking ceremony

JAMALPUR, Feb 11: Oath taking ceremony of newly elected Union Parishad chairman of Jamalpur sadar thana was held on Thursday at thana parishad conference room here, reports BSS.

Thana Nirbahi Officer Ranghu Moni Singh conducted the oath taking ceremony.

Deputy Commissioner, Jamalpur, Auchyuta Pada Goswami was present as chief guest in the ceremony.

Fifteen chairmen besides 180 elected member including women members took oath of office.

A large number of supporters of the elected chairmen and members and local elite were present on the occasion.

Views exchanged on pry edn programme

MYMENSINGH, Feb 11: The district administration exchanged views on compulsory primary education programme in the district at a meeting held recently at the local press club, reports BSS.

Presided over by Deputy Commissioner Md Rafiqul Islam, the members of Mymensingh Press Club took part in discussion. District primary education officer Sadeka Begum and UNICEF consultant Golam Mohiuddin also spoke on the occasion. The participants discussed the matters relating to compulsory primary education programme of government and placed some suggestions with a view to ensuring the proper enrolment of students, continuation in the school and repeated inspection and supervision of the schools by the authorities concerned.

Wall of Patuakhali VTI to be built

PATUAKHALI, Feb 11: Facilities Department under Ministry of Education has taken up a programme to construct a boundary wall of Patuakhali Vocational Training Institute (VTI) in the current fiscal year, reports BSS.

Official sources said, Tk 96,995 has been allocated for the construction of the boundary wall. The work of the project will start soon.

New chairmen of Satkhira take oath

SATKHIRA, Feb 11: Newly elected chairmen and members of 29 union parishes of Kalaroa, Tala and Assasuni thanas of the district took oath at separate functions held at each Thana Nirbahi Office on Wednesday last, reports BSS.

In Kalaroa thana the oath taking ceremony was conducted by the Thana Nirbahi Officer Golam Sarwar Mian. Nine chairmen, 27 women members and 81 general members took oath in the function. The oath taking ceremony at Tala thana was led by the Thana Nirbahi Officer Abdul Halim. Syed Kamal Bokht MP was present in the function as the chief guest. Ten chairmen, 30 women members and 90 general members took oath in the function.

Beggars on rise

NARAIL, Feb 11: Beggars have been crowding the district headquarters creating obstruction to normal life and polluting the environment, reports UNB.

According to social welfare workers, continuous influx of people into the town since the last few months, in search of food and job, has now been causing concern among the town dwellers. Many people come to the town with the hope of securing a job in the wake of widening unemployment in the rural areas, food scarcity and high prices during the dry season. Able-bodied people are found begging in the day and resorting to criminal activities at night while many young women have been carrying on immoral activities.

Work of truck terminal progressing

JESSORE, Feb 11: Construction of a truck terminal at Benapole, near Bangladesh India border, is in full swing at a cost of Taka 10 crore, reports BSS.

According to an official source, the truck terminal being built on 18 acres of land will be equipped with modern facilities. The truck terminal will have a capacity to park 1,000 trucks and lorries. About 40 per cent work has already been completed.

Fish-fries distribution programme

KISHOREGANJ, Feb 11: The district fisheries department has taken up a pisciculture programme including distribution of fish-fries among the farmers, reports BSS.

The department has produced 75-98 kilograms of eggs of different varieties fish like *ruhi*, *katta*, *mrigal*, silver carp, *magur* and *thaiputy* till July 97 in two fish farms in the district. The department has produced 366 lakh fish-fries during the period. The target of production was fixed at 35 kilograms of eggs and 400 lakhs fish-fries. There are 24,361 cultivable ponds covering 2420 hectares in the district.

Tk 8 lakh Tangail Thana Engg Deptt project

TANGAIL, Feb 11: Thana Engineering Department of Gopalpur has taken up a programme to repair and reconstruct its existing structures at a cost of Taka 8.35.0562 in this fiscal year, reports BSS.

Official sources said that under this programme office building, staff quarters, TDC hall and a pump house will be repaired and reconstructed. The work will start soon to complete it by this financial year.

Contraband goods seized

NAOGOAN, Feb 11: The Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) in a raid recently seized contraband smuggled goods worth about Taka four lakh from Dhamoirhat thana under Naogoan district, reports BSS.

According to an official source, the smuggled Indian goods include 7490 kilograms of sugar of 94 bi-cycles. Five alleged smugglers were arrested in this connection.

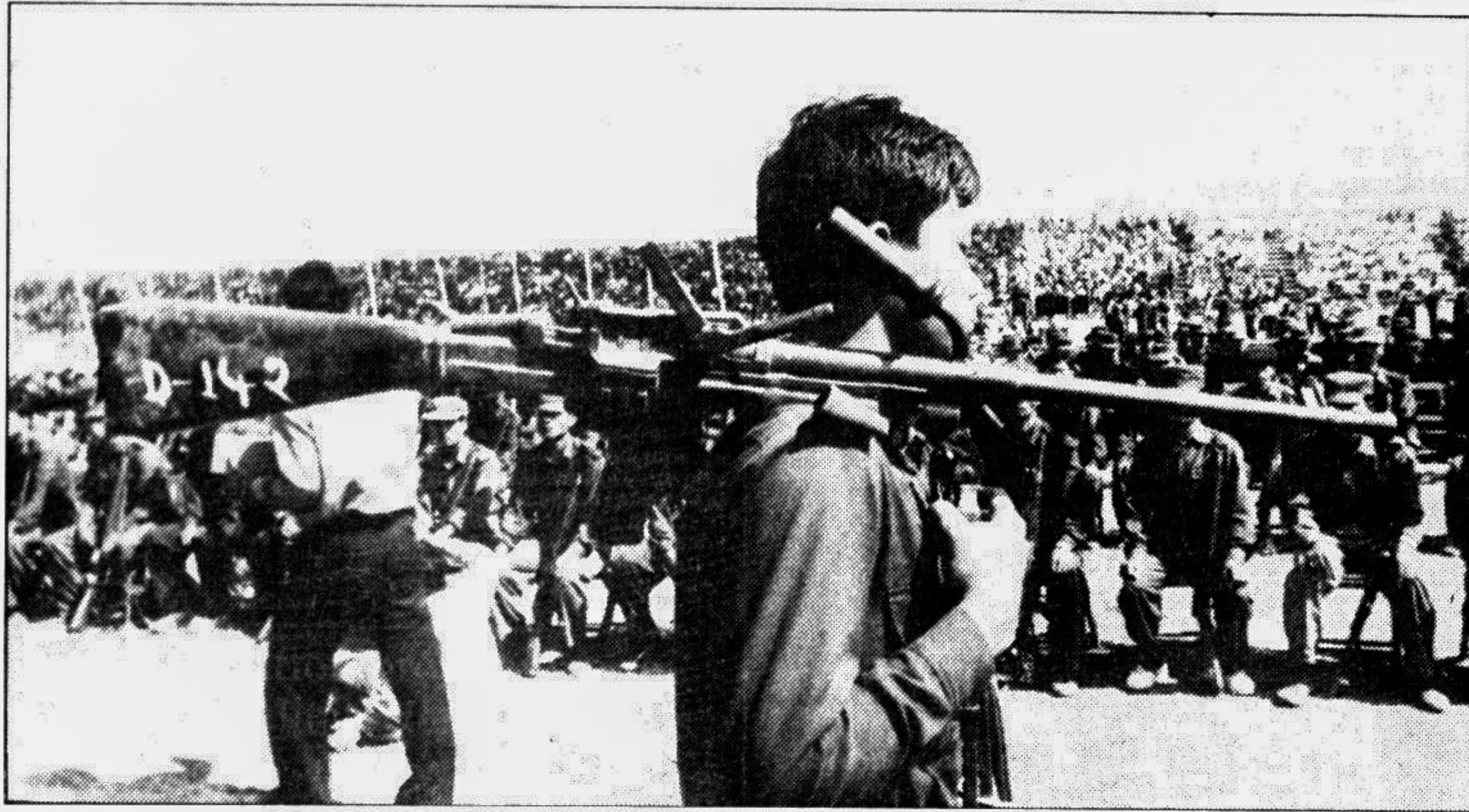
Blankets distributed

MUNSHIGANJ, Feb 11: The Munshiganj district unit of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society distributed 300 pieces of blankets among the distressed of the six thanas of the district at a function held in the local Red Crescent office premises on February 4, according to an official source, reports BSS.

205 uplift projects completed

KISHOREGANJ, Feb 11: Local Government Engineering Department completed 205 development projects in 13 thanas of the district in the 1996-97 fiscal year at a cost of Taka 9.21 crore, reports BSS.

According to official sources, the projects are construction and re-construction of bridges, culverts, roads, flood control centres, graveyard, protection wall and soiling. The development work included road construction and re-construction of 84.87 km culverts, 800-metre protection wall. The 13 thanas are: Kishoreganj sadar, Karimganj, Tarail, Pakundia, Hossainpur, Katiadi, Bajitpur, Kullarchar, Bhairab, Itna, Austogram, Mithamon, and Nikli.



A member of 'Shanti Bahini' on Tuesday proceeding towards the newly-built Khagrachhari Stadium to lay down his Light Machine Gun (LMG). — Star photo by A K M Mohsin

Aman production falls short of target in 11 S-dists

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Feb 11: Nearly 25 per cent Aman production has declined in 11 southern districts under Barisal Agriculture Zone (BAZ) this season.

According to the Agriculture Extension Department (AED), production of 2,01,843 metric tons of Aman paddy worth Taka 140 crores has fallen short of target fixed by the agriculture department in these districts due to natural calamities, attack of pests and drought.

It is the highest shortfall of Aman production in comparison to previous years, informed sources said.

Experts opined that the rainfall was only nearly 7mm during last October which is considered as the peak time for the production of Aman in this area. There was 215 mm rain

fall in the previous season.

According to agriculture department, 5,38,150 hectares of land was brought under Aman cultivation where the target of production was fixed as 8,47,830 metric tons but against this target production has been yielded as 6,15,024 metric tons of Aman in this season. The worst deficit areas has been identified in Bhola district where shortfall of production was 63,895 tons while 46,3,17 tons in Pirojpur, 20,724 in Barisal, 9992 tons in Jhalakati, 15,613 tons in Patuakhali, 37,072 tons in Barguna, 398 tons in Faridpur, 909 tons in Madaripur, 237 tons in Gopalganj, 3694 in Rajbari and 2993 tons of Aman were produced less in Sariapur district in this season.

Nearly 60 thousand hectares of land's production have been damaged almost totally due to continuous drought and the rest quantity has been damaged due to pest-attack.

Drought hit hard about 17,45,580, farmer families in this region, according to departmental sources. It is to be mentioned, to cope with the situation Agriculture Extension Department has and installed some 27,300 shallow and deep tubewells but, according to sources, due to unawareness of the farmers in time crops could not be saved. In this situation, departmental decision is, Open Market Sell (OMS) of rice.

It should be continued till the price of rice comes down to Taka 13 per kilogram in the southern districts.

But till now, district marketing department has remained almost inactive in this respect.

Special police drive in Barisal town

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Feb 11: A special police operation is being conducted from Thursday to control crimes in Barisal town area.

A police team consisting 100 police including 30 from Range Reserve Force (RRF) has been constituted to conduct immediate police operation where and when necessary in the town.

If any so-called mastans or criminal is arrested from the troubled area on any charge would be recommended for detention outright.

Decisions also have been taken to control any untoward incident or violent situation created by mastans, extortionists or hoodlums particularly in the town area, police team would rush to the spot immediately to control the situation. Police force would also be reinforced if necessary.

1,500 criminals remain absconding in Khulna

KHULNA, Feb 11: Some 1,500 people under warrant of arrests in various cases in five thanas of the metropolitan area here remained absconding for long, reports UNB.

Khulna Metropolitan Police (KMP) sources said the accused are wanted in connection with various offenses including extortion, mugging, burglary, robbery, rape, oppression against children and women, violence and possessing illegal arms and explosives.

Among the total accused, 1,309 are charged with GR cases while 194 are with CR cases, the sources added.

Thana-wise break up of the accused under warrant of arrests are - Sadar thana - 661, Sonadanga - 191, Khalishpur -

511, Daulatpur - 129 and Khan Jahan Ali - 31.

Some of the accused are charged with more than one cases, the sources said adding that these people are involved in crimes in several parts of the metropolis.

When contacted, a high official of KMP told that police are raiding different areas to nab the criminals. They said in earlier drives they also nabbed a number of wanted criminals.

But, he said, the criminals after securing release from the court due to some inadequacies in the relevant laws involve themselves again in the criminal activities.

This is one of the reasons why the law and order situation can not be improved substantially, he said.

Afforestation programme to help rehabilitate Jhum families

KHAGRACHHARI, Feb 11: The government has undertaken a massive programme to plant trees on 181,000 hectares of land in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, reports UNB.

Environment and Forest Minister Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury made the disclosure at a discussion meeting on partnership afforestation and forest conservation.

Turning to arms surrendering by Shantubahini, the Minister said all roads have now been opened up for changing the lot of the toiling masses in the region.

Plantation not only equilibrates the environment but also alleviates the financial woes of the people, she said.

Sajeda said the farmers, who are planting trees, will get the right share for the first time. They will get 95 per cent shares for planting trees on leased land while 50 per cent on fallow land, she said.

The meeting was told that



New president, secy of Jessore Press Club

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE, Feb 11: Jamir Ahmed Tun and Mizanur Rahman Tutu were elected President and General Secretary respectively of Jessore Press Club in its biennial general election held on February 7.

15 others who returned to various posts of the executive body included Binoy Kirshna Mollik, Shaha Kiron Kumar Kochi, Mobinul Islam Mobin, Ashon Kabir Babu, Faraj Ahmed Syed Bulbul, Aminur Rahman Mamun, SM Tauhidur Rahman, Wahiduzzaman Zantu, Mostafa Ruhul Qudus, Habibulla Habib, Abdul Wahab Mukul, Mia Abdus Sattar and MA Mannan.

Sarashwati puja celebrated

Sarashwati puja was celebrated here with great enthusiasm on Sunday.

The puja was held at different educational institutes, temples and different private houses.

The temples and streets were decorated with lights, sweets, fruits and other food, tested by the goddess, were offered to the visitors at the temples and houses.

Businessman dead

A prominent businessman in the town named Md Mojibur Rahman died of heart failure on the Eid day.

Mojibur Rahman, 69, owner of Fashion House, Hasina Boarding and Hasina Cinema Hall left three sons and a daughter, numerous friends and patrons to mourn his death.

The body of late Mojibur was buried at Garikhana graveyard on Saturday noon. The president of Natore Chamber of Commerce and Industries (NCCI), Md Aminul Haq conduced the death and all the business centres in the town kept their shutters down for

the occasion.

Earlier, the Minister visited several nurseries of the Forest Department in the area, according to a PID handout.

Housewife beaten to death

RANGAPUR, Feb 11: A young housewife was allegedly beaten to death by her husband at village Radhaballav in Kotwali thana of the district, police said, reports UNB.

According to police, the body of the victim, identified as Rina Begum, 20, was recovered from their house after her husband Moshfikur Rahman informed the police that his wife committed suicide by hanging herself.

But the neighbours said the couple was locked in a quarrel on the night of Friday and the map beat her mercilessly.

Natore Newsletter

From Our Correspondent

Eid-ul-Fitr celebrated

NATORE, Feb 11: Holy Eid-ul-Fitr, the greatest religious festival of the Muslims, was celebrated throughout the district on January 30 with due favour and gaiety.

After one month's fasting, the Muslims celebrated the Eid festival and joined congregations where special prayers were offered seeking divine blessings for continued peace, progress and prosperity of the nation as well as further strengthening the Muslim Ummah.

On the Eid day, people attended congregations, exchanged greetings, visited relatives and friends and offered sweets.

Eid congregations were held at central Mosque, Garikhana Mosque, Alapur Mosque, Neechabazar Mosque and other mosques.

Couple hurt by alleged terrorists

A couple was seriously wounded when a group of identified terrorists made an attack on a house at Yasipur area in the town on Sunday.

The injured persons are: Noashad Ali, resident of the house and his wife Taslima Begum. The group also looted over Tk 5000 from the couple who were admitted at Natore Sadar Hospital.

A case was filed with the sadar thana accusing Karim, Awal and Abdur Rahman, among others, of the area.

On the other hand, Khokon, son of one Ruhul Abedin Heera of Alapur of the town was injured critically when a group of miscreants made an attack on him with knife at Jelepara in the town on Sunday.

Khokon was admitted at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital. A case was lodged with the sadar thana in this connection.

Collecting golpata, goran firewood of passes, permits

KHULNA, Feb 11: A section of influential people are grabbing passes and permits to collect 'golpata' and 'goran' firewood from the Sundarbans depriving the 'Bawalis', reports UNB.

Every year the passes and permits are issued to enlist Bawalis on first come first served basis.

According to Sundarban forest division office sources, this year certain influential persons forced the officials to issue the pass and permits to their own men depriving the Bawalis.

It has been learnt that these permit holders have had no previous experience. They have no boats and no tools and implements even to collect these

Phensidyl recovered

Natore police recovered 200 bottles of phensidyl from two Dhaka-bound night coaches on January 26.

Acting on a tip-off, police raided Modern Enterprise and Kishan coaches on the bypass road and recovered Indian liquor worth of about Tk 20,000.

None was arrested in this connection till filing of this report.

Newly-wed housewife commits suicide

A newly-married housewife committed suicide by taking pesticide on January 25 at Borairgam thana.

The victim was Ranjana Begum, 20, wife of one Zalat Uddin of Haroa village of Borairgam thana of the district.

Police said, that the cause of the suicide was family feud. An unnatural death (UD) case was filed with the thana in this connection.

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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Institute of Post-Graduate Medicine & Research, Shahbag, Dhaka
 No. IPGMR/Admin/MSR/97-98/568 Dated: 4.2.98
4th Re-Tender Notice
 Sealed tenders are invited by 12-30 minutes of 25.02.98 from interested contractors/traders/suppliers/manufacturers for purchase of furnitures during 1997-98 financial year at the Institute of Post-Graduate Medicine & Research, Dhaka. Tender schedule can be collected from the Accounts Section & SLPP through treasury challan of Tk 750/- during office hours up to 24.02.98. It may be noted that, the original copy of treasury challan should be deposited at the time of purchasing the tender schedule. No tender schedule will be sold on the date of submitting tender. Detailed terms & conditions/information regarding the tender will be available in the tender schedule.
 The Tender Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any tender or all tenders. The Tender Committee is not bound to accept the lowest tender.
Joint Director
 Institute of Post-Graduate Medicine & Research
 Shahbag, Dhaka
 DFP-2602-8/2
 G-229

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer (R&H) CHT Workshop Division, Rangamati
(R&H) Tender Invitation Notice
 1. Tender Notice No: 21 (twenty-one)/RWD/1997-98 Dt. 25.1.98/12.10.1404BS.
 2. Name of work : Supply of spare parts for 75 HP Hydromaster Ford Engine (Model BSD-666) of Chandraghona Ferryghat under CHT Workshop Division, Rangamati.
 3. Estimated cost : As per schedule.
 4. Earnest money : At the rate 2% of estimated cost (in favour of EE, WD, Rangamati).
 5. Prescribed time limit for completion of work : 20 (twenty) days after issuing work order.
 6. Eligibility of contractor : R&H enlisted 'A' to 'E' category general class contractors as per financial limit & rules/bonafide agency of manufacturer.
 7. Offices where tender can be purchased from : Executive Engineer (R&H), Workshop Division, Rangamati/Chittagong/Road Division, Rangamati & Sub-Divisional Engineer (R&H), Workshop Sub-Division, Rangamati offices up to 22.2.98.
 8. Offices where tender will be received at & opened : Superintending Engineer (R&H), Workshop Circle, Chittagong; Superintending Engineer (R&H), Road Circle, Rangamati; Executive Engineer (R&H), Workshop Division, Rangamati; Executive Engineer (R&H), Workshop Division, Chittagong.
 9. Last date & time of receiving tender : 23.2.98 up to 12-00 Noon.
 10. Date & time of opening tender : Tenders will be opened at respective offices on 25.2.98 at 12-15 PM in presence (if any) of the willing tenderers.
 11. Head of work : 168-2 Ferry repair.
MG Sarwar Bhuiyan
 Executive Engineer (R&H)
 CHT Workshop Division
 Rangamati
 DFP-2377-4/2
 G-228

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer Comilla Public Works Division, Comilla
Tender Invitation Notice
No. 100/1997-98
 1. Tenders in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 under sealed cover are invited from Public Works Department enlisted special 1st class & 1st class building contractors/Chittagong Public Works Zone enlisted 2nd class building contractors & Comilla Public Works Circle enlisted 3rd class building contractors for the undermentioned work. Tenders will be received by the office of the undersigned & Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, Chandpur/Noakhali/B'baria/Feni/Lakshipur up to 12:00 Noon of 19.2.98 and opened on the same day at 12:15 PM in presence of the tenderers so willing. Each tender should be deposited in the tender box kept at the respective office superscribing the name of work on the sealed cover. No contractor/contractory firm without VAT registration & TIN can purchase the tender.
 (A) Name of work : Construction of boundary wall (remaining portion) of Comilla Kotwali Thana. Financial year 1997-98.
 (B) Estimated cost : Tk 2,54,689/-
 (C) Earnest money : Tk 5,100/-
 (D) Time for completion : 90 (nintey) days.
 of work from the date of work order
 2. Tender schedule can be seen & purchased up to 18.2.98.
 3. Tender, schedule of items and terms & conditions can be seen & purchased on payment of Tk 400/- (four hundred) only (non-refundable) per set & Tk 25/- (twenty-five) only (non-refundable) for each Bangladesh Form No. 2911 from the office of the undersigned & Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, Chandpur/Noakhali/B'baria/Feni/Lakshipur and all Sub-Divisional Engineer's offices under this Division during office hours.
 If more than one tender is received with the same rate, then the tender will be decided through lottery on 3.3.98 at 11:00 AM at the office chamber of Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, Comilla in presence (if any) of the tenderers.
Md Akhtarul Alam
 Executive Engineer
 Comilla Public Works Division
 Comilla
 DFP-2373-4/2
 G-231
 Phone No. 6935