Newssnaps

Implementation of CHT accord demanded BANDARBAN, Apr 17: Hill Women's Federation brought out a procession in the town on Saturday demanding full imple-

mentation of CHT peace agreement, reports UNB. The procession paraded different roads of the town and ended at the local Press Club premises. They also held a meeting in front of the club demanding formation of regional and district councils as per the peace agreement. Presided over by Federation's President Nusapru Marma, the meeting was addressed, among others, by Waingsing Pru, Rumi Marma, Doesing and Lumranu.

Pahela Baishakh celebrated

KHULNA, Apr 17: Bengali new year's day, Pahela Baishakh, was celebrated here on Tuesday in a mood of elation and joy, reports UNB.

To mark the day, various socio-cultural organisations held daylong programmes. District Shilpakala Academy, Sammilita Sangskritik Jote, Udichi, Sujala Sangskritik Sangathan and ADAB brought out colour processions in the morning on the occasion. Wearing colour dresses of bride and bridegroom. many cheering people brought out makeshift bridal parties in carts and palki. They sang Baishakhi songs, danced and rang flutes through the city streets. Sujala Sangskritik Sangathan held a discussion meeting at its office here. A cultural fair was also arranged at Jati Sangha Shishupark to mark the day.

Tk 1.13 cr uplift project in Tangail

TANGAIL, Apr 17: District council of Tangail is implementing 23 projects this year at a total cost of Taka 1,13,68,300, re-

ports BSS According to official sources, under this programme 14 roads will be developed, two bridges will be constructed, one bazar, one mosque, one school, one college, and one market will be developed. Besides, four road-side shades will be constructed. Of the projects six are of the last fiscal year and the rest 17 projects are of the current fiscal year.

Boro output may fall short of target

SAVAR. Apr 17: About 10 lakh hectares of land have been brought under Boro cultivation in 16 districts of Dhaka division in the current season with a production target of 30 lakh metric tons of paddy, reports UNB.

According to Agriculture Extension Department (AED), of the total land, eight lakh hectares have been brought under the high yielding variety (HYV) and the rest two lakh hectares under the local variety. The farmers expressed apprehension that production may fall short of target as they could not operate their irrigation pumps properly due to frequent load-shedding. Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation sources said 40,000 power pumps for 16 districts remain inoperative for six hours a day which may hamper achieve the target of production.

Foundation of Daratana Bridge laid

BAGERHAT, Apr 17; Communications Minister Anwar Hossain Manju laid the foundation stone of Daratana Bridge over the Bhairab river on Tuesday, reports UNB.

The constructions work of the 630.50 metre-long bridge on Bagerhat-Pirojpur road, costing Tk 36 crore, will be completed by three years. Addressing a function on the occasion, the Minister said the government has decided to construct 35 more roads with a view to bringing all parts of the country under the road network. Presided over by Additional Chief Engineer of Khulna Roads and Highway Sayed Fazlul Haq, the function was addressed, among others, by State Minister for Women and Children and Social Welfare Dr Mozammel Hossain, State Minister for Relief and Disaster Management Talukder Abdul Khaleq, Mir Shakhawat Ali MP, Deputy Commissioner Sayed Muhammad Nurul Islam and Chief Executive Engineer of Roads and Highway Abdul Wadud.

Sirajganj road mishap claims 2 lives

SIRAJGANJ, Apr 17: A head-on-collision between a bus and a truck at Hatikumral in Ullapara thana on Bogra-Nagarbari highway early Tuesday left two people dead and 25 others injured, reports UNB.

Police said the accident took place when the Bogra-bound bus from Dhaka rammed into the truck at about 6 am One of the dead was identified as Madhu Mia. 40, of Shahjadi ir thana. Of the injured Habibur Rahman, 35, Abdur Rahim, 30, Siddique, 28, Nurul Islam, 28, Sataya Chandra Das, 30, and Abdus Salam were admitted to the District General Hospital.

Uplift projects undertaken at Kalkini

MADARIPUR, Apr 17: The government has taken up a development project in Kalkini thana, reports BSS.

The Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) is implementing the project at a cost of Taka 35.14 lakh under the Annual Development Programme. The project includes construction of roads, culverts and toilets, re-excavation of canals, installation of tubewells and supply of furnitures to different schools. The LGED office sources said, the living condition of the area will improve with completion of the project.

Advocacy meeting at Comilla

COMILLA, Apr 17: An advocacy meeting on upgradation of land-use plan for Comilla pourasava area was held at the pourasava auditorium recently, reports BSS.

Pourasava chairman Kamal Uddin Chowdhury presided over the meeting. The meeting was arranged under the Secondary Towns Infrastructure Development Project. Dr Hemayetuddin, Dr Aminul Huq. Abdul Awal, Executive Officer Md Altaf Hossain Mollah, poura Commissioner Jamiruddin Khan Jampi, Amanullah Khan Himmat spoke in the meeting. Elite, journalists, poura commissioners, participated in the meeting.

Pest-attack on Boro field

NARSINGDI, Apr 17: Boro farming in Belebo thana here is facing a setback due to massive pest attack causing concern

among the farmers, reports UNB.

About 5,000 hectares of land in the thana have been brought under Boro cultivation in the current season but farmers apprehended that the production target would not be achieved due to the attack. Farmers had lost their Aman paddy last season due to the same reason. Farmers alleged that in absence of timely spraying of pesticides by the authority concerned new crop-fields are being invaded by the pests. They said they are quite unable to combat the menace due to shortage of pesticides and spray machines. All the 60 spray machines in the local agriculture office remained out of order for long, they alleged.

Preservation of flood water emphasised

CHAPAINAWABGANJ, Apr 17: State Minister for Water Resources Dr M Alauddin has laid emphasis on preserving the flood water for irrigation and pisciculture to develop the socioeconomic condition of the people, reports UNB.

The State Minister was addressing a meeting of district Relief and Coordination Committee at the local Circuit House here on Sunday. The meeting formed two powerful committees with a view to launching massive afforestation programme for protecting the river erosion of the northern region and to study the feasibility of old and new town protection projects.

Rangpur road accident costs 2

RANGPUR, Apr 17: Two children of a family were killed by a speeding minibus at Boirigonj in Mithapukur thana on Rangpur-Bogra highway on Tuesday, reports UNB.

The victims were identified as Meghla, 5, and Hemel, 3, daughter and son of one Humayun of the area. Witnesses said the tragic mishap occurred when they were crossing the road at 11:30 am. The bus driver fled the scene with the vehicle after the accident. A case was filed with the police.



FARIDPUR: A colourful rally was brought out in town recently in observance of National Sanitation Week '98. Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) organised the rally. - Star photo



SYLHET: Artistes of Anandalok rendering songs on Tuesday welcoming Pahela Baishakh in the divisional town. - Star photo

1,000 fishermen in misery in Pabna

PABNA, Apr 17: Fishermen of Karamza union in Santhia thana are leading an inhuman life as they have been deprived of fishing in a beel which was leased out by the government. reports UNB.

Local people and fishermen said some 1,000 members of the community are not being allowed to do fishing in Gangbhangar beel which is their main source of income.

The Ministry of Land gave lease 75 acres of land in the beel to Tolot Fishermen Cooperative Association showing it as a closed water body despite the claim by the local people that it is connected to the river Jamuna and an open one.

Witnesses said the fishermen community of the area who

throng the beel are being barred by the security men of the lease holders.

The fishermen alleged that they have been living for many years mainly on fishing in the water body.

They said members of the association led by one Premchand Talot are not the organisation of genuine fishermen and took the lease from the ministry with the help of influential people.

They also alleged the government has given lease for only Tk 1.26 lakh though fish worth about Tk 2 crore is being produced every year in the beel. Police arrested four fisher-

men following a clash between them and the men of the fish trader who lead the association.

They were identified as Abul Kalam, 28. Mokbul Hossain, 20, Abdul Latif, 30. and Sekander, 27, of village Baya.

They alleged the men of Premchand filed several false cases against them only to harass those who protested the lease.

Premchand was not available for comment, but one of his employees Lalchand told that they were fishing as the government gave lease the beel to them. The government has the right to lease out even the river, he claimed.

A number of families were facing starvation, said the fishermen demanding immediate scrapping of the lease to allow them fishing in the beel.

Siltation hampers navigation along Chandpur river route

CHANDPUR, Apr 17: Navigation to and from Chandpur has been affected seriously due to rapid fall in water level of all rivers in the district and emergence of shoals.

Many shoals have appeared in many places on the rivers of Padma, Meghna and Dakatia due to heavy siltation during the last few years.

Plying of riverine transports along different river routes have become very risky as well as time consuming

According to Chandpur Water Development Board office sources, water level recorded in the Padma, Meghna and Dakatia are lower than normal requirement during the current

It has been alleged, about 10 to 15 feet layer of siltation have

From Our Correspondent appeared on the river beds of

the rivers Padma and Meghna. It is expected, the ground and surface water will go down further affecting seriously the ecological balance and causing acute crisis of water. Now water transports in-

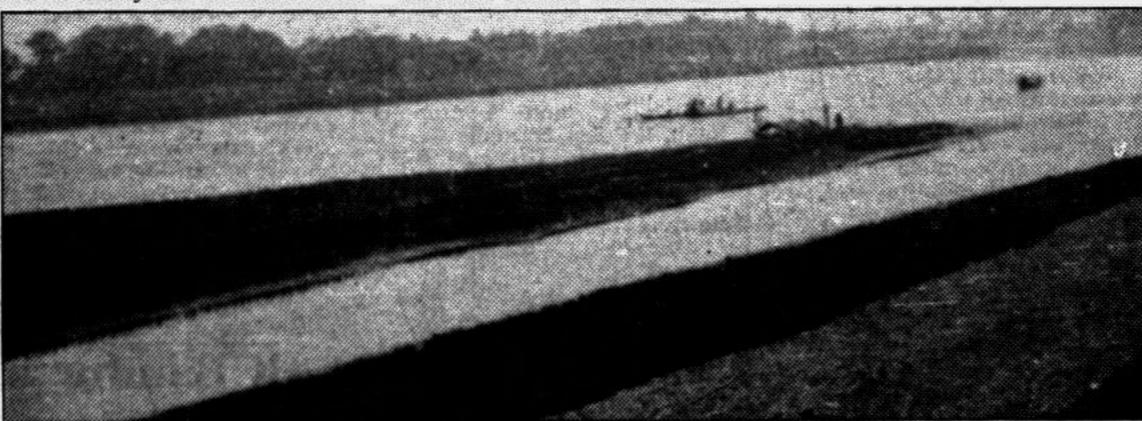
cluding steamers, faunches, country boats plying between Chandpur-Dhaka, Chandpur-Barisal, Chandpur-Narayanganj, Chandpur-Khulna have to cover an additional distance of four to five kilometers to reach destination by diverting the original routes. Passengers of steamers and launches plying on these routes have to suffer due to hidden shoals in different areas. Sometimes passengers on board are stranded for hours together in the middle of the river as the vessels some-

times hit hidden shoals mid stream.

About 150 launches and other vessels are plying in these routes everyday. BIWTA is responsible to locate the sunken shoals on these river beds. Sometime, BIWTA fails to locate the exact number of shoals in the rivers.

The rivers Padma and Dakatia are flowing years together without dredging. Early dredging of these rivers are very essential. Dredging of rivers are convenient during the dry season. River transport system along Chandpur route will improve considerably following dredging, " tont

Communications, trade, and business of the area will be improved if dredging of 3 rivers are done in due time.



CHANDPUR: Shoals in the river Meghna in the district.

Bangladeshi national caught by BSF

From Staff Correspondent SYLHET, Apr 17: A

Bangladeshi national was caught by the Indians from the river Kushiyara while he was fishing there on Tuesday last. Putul Miah, 50, was caught by the Indian Border Security

Force (BSF) men at about 12:30 pm near Jakiganj border.

However, a BDR source said the Indian BSF at a flag meeting in the afternoon on April 16 told, the victim was caught by the Indian forest guards, not the BSF. The forest guards had handed over the victim to Karimganj police, the source added. He would be soon brought back, the BDR official

Fire renders 14 families homeless

From Our Correspondent FARIDPUR, Apr 17: Fourteen families were rendered homeless by a devastating fire that broke out recently at village Rakandi under Alfadanga

According to local source, a huge straw heap caught fire from a burning cigarette thrown by a juvenile delinquent. The fire engulfed rapidly neighbouring 18 tin sheds. A total of 10 thatched houses mere completely burning. Property worth Taka 15 lakh were gutted.

Eid reunion

TANGAIL, Apr 17: Tangail Press Club held Eid Reunion on Saturday in the club, reports

Eid greetings were exchanged and a cultural function was held on this occasion.

The club also accorded reception to Lion Nazrul Islam and Assistant Commissioner of Police Akram Hossain for their remarkable contribution in the fields of education and law and order respectively.

Among others, Abdul Quayum, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Rahmat Zahan Sikdar, Police Super, Aftabuzzaman Khan Feroz, Vice-President district Awami League, Shawkat Ali Talukder, an Awami League leader, Dr Kamruzzaman and Advocate Khan Mohammad Khaled, former presidents of Tangail Press Club spoke on the occasion. Zafar Ahmed, secretary of

the press club delivered address of welcome.

Diarrhoea claims 5 lives in Pabna From Our Correspondent

ABNA, Apr 17: Five oat tients died and 2,000 were affected with diahrroea throughout Pabna Pourashabha and sadar thana during last three

In Pabna General Hospital,

100 patients have been admitted. They have been lying on the floor due to shortage of beds. Patients have been coming from different places, a doctor in the hospital said. The local civil surgeon made

a microphone publicity in the town asking people to be cautious in drinking water and use Orsaline when anyone is affected with diahrroea. The disease took an epi-

demic turn here. Diahrroea has also spread in all other eight thanas of the district. Over 200 patients were admitted in various thana health complexes till -Star photo | filing of the report.

Food official Indo-Bangla

border cofce in Satkhira

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, Apr 17: A twoday joint border conference between officials of Satkhira (Bangladesh) and North Chabbis Pargana district (India) areas began here on Monday.

Officials said on the first day both the sides decided to help each other on different problems of border areas including identification of absconding accused persons of criminal cases across the boarder, measures to curb smuggling and trafficking of women and children and maintenance of embankment of Water Development Board adjacent to the bor-

The meeting also decided to form a joint committee to carry out a joint survey for repair and construction of damaged and missing border pillars.

The meeting also agreed to discuss major criminal cases where persons may have been alleged to be abducted across the international border area, ex change of list of criminals for early apprehension and prose-cution, movement of trucks and materials through Ghojadanga ICP and unauthorised movement of essential commodities across the international bor-

Abducted girl yet to be

KISHOREGANJ, Apr 17: Police yet to trace out the whereabouts of a school girl after two months and 19 days of her abduction from a village in sadar thana here, reports UNB.

rescued

According to family sources. Nargis Begum, 13, daughter of Abdul Malek of village Nohar was allegedly kidnapped by her co-villager Mostafa along with his accomplices from her house on January 24.

suspended NARAIL, Apr 17; Borodia

food godown in-charge of Kalia thana has been put under suspension for alleged misappropriation of 79.53 metric tons wheat allotted under Food for Education and Food for Works Programmes, reports UNB. Officials sources said

Mominul Haque, OC LSD of the thana misappropriated the wheat allotted against 3,000 VGD card holders and one fine morning he went into hiding in March. They said while giving charge to a new OC LSD, wheat

worth of Tk 7 lakh was found missing from the godown when it was opened in presence of a magistrate on March 31. A case was filed against Mominul Haq on the day by the district food office which is now

under investigation by the Dis-

trict Anti-corruption Depart-

ment Earlier, officials of project committees and UP chairman against whom the DO letters were issued, submitted written complaints to the TNO for nondelivery of wheat

No.

DFP-7632-6/4

G-791

BTMC's Tender Notice Purchase of Photocopier

Sealed tenders are hereby invited by the Joint Secretary (Common Service), Bangladesh Textile Mills Corporation, 7-9, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka for the purchase of one Photocopier (having facility of enlargement/reduction) for the Corporation from authorised distributors/sole agents in Bangladesh or genuine Photocopier traders. Tender schedule along with terms and conditions may be purchased from the Cash Section of the Corporation on payment of Tk 50.00 (fifty) each (non-refundable) applying on the letter head pads of the firms on all working days from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM up to 3.5.98. Tenders will be received at the office of the Joint Secretary (Common Service) on 4.5.98 up to 11:30 AM.

Ministry of Defence

From

Directorate General Defence Purchase

TMC-4/98

DFP-7607-6/4

Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215 **Re-Tender Notice**

New Airport Road

Sealed tenders in Foreign currency are invited from bonafide Manufacturers/Dealers/ Indentors (not necessarily enlisted with this Directorate General) for supply of the following items for Bangladesh Navy. Currency | Tender No Date of Date of Selling Description of Stores &

Opening

5446 F/C 19-5-98 18-5-98 Portable Electric Pump 21-4-98 Oty — 06 in No The tender schedule with detail specification will be available at given rate (not refundable) on any working day between 0800 hours to 1200 hours. The tender will be opened at 1000 hours on the above-mentioned date in presence of the present tenderers. Lt Cdr BN ISPR/Misc/98/309

To

For Director General

G-790

4 more girls raped

By Staff Correspondent

Three minor girls and a teen were raped in Jessore, Satkhira

and Madaripur within a span of 10 days. Our Jessore Correspondent reports: A minor girl, 7, of village Bishahari in Jhinkergacha thana was raped by a young boy

of the same village on April 12. According to police, when the victim, a student of Class I, in a local primary school was returning home from the school at noon.

Suddenly she was picked up forcibly by Shafi and confined in a room nearby. There he raped her for several times and left her. She was profusely bleeding following the rape incident.

Meanwhile, local people rushed to the spot and recovered her in a critical condition.

She was immediately admitted to local thana health complex. Later, when her condition worsened she was shifted to the General Hospital, Jessore in the morning on April 13. Police have arrested Shafi

from his village on April 13. UNB reports: Two minor girls were violated in Tala and Assasuni thanas in Satkhira district in the first week of this

month, police said. According to police, Ruhul Quddus, 22, of village Ershad Gazi in Tala thana raped a girl,

13, of the same village on April 7 forcibly taking her to an abandoned house. She was grazing her cattle in a nearby beel

The victim's medical test was performed at the sadar hospital. A case was filed with the police, but the accused re-

mained absconding. Earlier on April 4, a gang of miscreants kidnapped another girl, 16, of village Hijla in Assasuni thana when she came out of her house at night to respond to the call of nature. She was taken to a nearby area and gang raped. The miscreants left the place leaving her unconscious.

A case was also filed with the respective police station.

Madaripur says: A girl, 16, of Kumarkhali in sadar thana was raped by co-villager Ali Bepari

handed over to the notorious mastan Ali and his accomplices at Kumartek trawler ghat by her neighbour Madhabi Malo. Madhabi enjoyed a cinema at night with the girl at Charmugria and on their way home she as per her previous contact, handed her to the miscreants who violated her one after another.

Metalex Corporation Limited (BSEC) 99, Tongi Industrial Area, Tongi, Gazipur

Tender Notice

Sealed tenders are hereby invited by the Metalex Corporation

No tender documents will be sold on the opening day of tender. Due to unavoidable circumstances if the tender will not be open on due date and time, the tender will be opened on

Name of work Protective work at stackyard

Head of accounts Estimated cost

Time allowed Eligibility of: contractor Name of offices: where tender

be sold

documents will

attached to Karatoya Bridge Site under Thakurgaon Road Division, during the year 1997-98. Karatoya Bridge Project.

45 (Forty-five) days. 'A' to 'C' General Category of

Rajshahi.

Planning & Design Division, Rang-pur/Planning Division, Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka. 3. Sub-Divisional Engineer

(RHD), Road Sub-Division, Thakurgaon/Panchagarh 1st Line Workshop, Sub-Division, Thakurgaon.

Rangpur Zone, Rangpur. Rajshahi.

3. Superintending Engineer (RHD), Road Circle, Dinajpur/Monitoring and Evaluation Circle, Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka.

4. Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Division, Thakurgaon/

10. Last date & time : 29/4/98. of selling documents (within office

be received

hours) for receiving

tender opening tender box

bids Date and time of : Will be fixed later on.

Md. Jalilur Rahman Pramanik Executive Engineer (RHD)

Road Division, Thakurgaon.

Another report from

and his accomplices on April 3.
Police said the girl was



Limited, 99, Tongi Industrial Area, Tongi, Gazipur from the bonafide C&F Agent and Carrying Contractor (who are enlisted with Rupali Bank, Janata Bank and Special Category) for appointment of C&F Agent and Carrying Contractor for clearance and carrying the import materials from Chittagong/Benapole port and also transportation for other locally products materials from Chittagong to Metalex Corporation Limited, 99, Tongi Industrial Area, Tongi, Gazipur. The tenders will be received up to 11-00 AM on 05.05.98 in the Tender Box kept in the Commercial Department of Metalex Corporation Ltd., 99, Tongi Industrial Area, Tongi, Gazipur and Purchase Division of Bangladesh Steel & Engineering Corporation, BSEC Bhaban, 102, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka and will be opened on the same day at 11-10 AM in presence of the tenderers, if any. Tender documents may be obtained on payment of Tk. 200.00 (Two hundred) only (Non-refundable) from the Accounts Department, Metalex Corporation Ltd., 99, Tongi Industrial Area, Tongi, Gazipur and Cash Section, Bangladesh Steel & Engineering Corporation, BSEC Bhaban, 102, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-

next office day at the same place, same day and same time.

DFP-7924-12/4

Thakurgaon Road Division

Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 are invited. 1. Tender Notice: 32, EE/T of 1997-98.

Tk 39,61,598/-Tk 79,232/-Earnest money

> 'RHD' Contractor. 1. Divisional Commissioner,

2. Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Division, Thakurgaon/ Dinajpur/Nilphamari/

Name of offices: where tender documents will

1. Addl. Chief Engineer (RHD), 2. Divisional Commissioner,

Dinajpur/Nilphamari.

Last date & time : At 12:30 PM on 30/4/98.

Date and time of : 12:45 PM on 30/4/98.

Date and time of : At 11:00 AM on 12/5/98. opening tender

lottery (if necessary)

DFP-7848-12/4 G-789