

News snaps

2 anti-socials arrested

KHAGRACHHARI, Jun 21: Two people were arrested from Dighinala thana on Friday for their alleged involvement in anti-social activities, reports UNB.
Police said Anwar Hossain, 35, of Jamot village was arrested along with Asya Khatun, 30, mother of two children, on allegation of having illegal relation between them. A case was filed in this connection. The arrested persons were sent to the jail *hajat*.

Food procurement drive progressing

RANGPUR, Jun 21: More than 3,000 tonnes of paddy and 4,000 tonnes of rice have so far been purchased from the growers of the district at fair price under the food procurement programme of the current season, an official source said, reports BSS.
The target was fixed at 12,000 tonnes of IRRI-boro paddy and 9,016 tonnes of rice in the district this year. The procurement is now in full swing through nine purchasing centres of Rangpur district.

9-man trustee board of Santosh varsity

TANGAIL, Jun 21: A nine-member trustee board of Santosh Islamic University founded by Moulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani has been formed by the government with former minister Alhaj M Abdul Mannan MP as its chairman, reports BSS.
Syed Irfanul Bari has been appointed member-secretary of the trustee board.

Training course for journalists concludes

PABNA, Jun 21: A week-long foundation training course for journalists concludes at the local Public Library auditorium recently, reports UNB.
Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Mahbubur Rahman inaugurated the training, jointly organised by Press Institute of Bangladesh and Pabna Press Club. A total of 25 journalists took part in the course.

Boy killed in road accident

MYMENSINGH, Jun 21: A boy was run over by a speeding bus at Dapunia Bazar in Sadar thana here on Mymensingh-Fulbaria road on Monday, reports UNB.
Police sources said the victim was identified as Samir, 10, son of Tazimuddin of Dapunia Bazar, died on the spot. He met the tragic end of his life while crossing the road. Police seized the bus, but the driver managed to escape. A case was filed with the Kotwali police in this connection.

R & H Deptt implemented 8 schemes

HABIGANJ, Jun 21: Roads and Highways (R&H) Department has implemented eight schemes at a cost of Tk 18.10 crore in the just concluded fiscal year of 1997-98, reports UNB.
Under the schemes, the department has completed pavement work of 18.50 km road, constructing of 11 km road, earth filling of 37.50 km road and construction of four bridges and 14 culverts. These included development of Habiganj-Nabiganj-Sherpur road, Habiganj-Baniachong-Ajmirganj road, Habiganj-Lakhai road, Habiganj-Sayestaganj road, Sayestaganj-Puranbazar-Kalimnagar road, Mirpur-Bahubal road, Jagadishpur-Sahjibazar-Sayestaganj road and Chunarughat-Satajuri-Natunbazar roads.

New Pahari Ondho Kalyan Samity body

RANGAMATI, Jun 21: A 13-member ad hoc committee of Pahari Ondho Kalyan Samity was formed here on Friday at a meeting held at Devashish Nagar of the town with eminent social worker of town Diptimoy Khisha in the chair, reports BSS.
Hari Mohan Chakma was made convener and Shanti Pada Chakma as member-secretary of the committee in the meeting which will promote the cause of the blinds living in the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

CHTDB to embark on 2nd phase of ISDP

RANGAMATI, Jun 21: The CHT Development Board (CHTDB) is to embark on the second phase of the Integrated Social Development Project (ISDP) to improve the socio-economic condition of the people in the region, reports UNB.
The project, with financial assistance from UNICEF, will cover 373 mouzas in three hill districts. The first phase of the development programme started in 1996 and is expected to be completed by the year 2000. The objectives of the project are to improve the overall socio-economic conditions of the people, reducing maternal and child mortality rate, preventing the spread of water-borne diseases and to expand the rate of literacy and to combat malnutrition among mother and child.

Defaulter farmers face certificate cases

COMILLA, Jun 21: Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKB) has filed 6,589 certificate cases till March of the current fiscal year through its 33 branches against the defaulter farmers to realise Tk 38.05 lakh outstanding loan, reports UNB.
BKB has disbursed loan about Tk 17.69 crore so far as against its target of Tk 32.71 crore till March which is 54 per cent of the target. At the same time BKB recovered only Tk 15.19 crore, 41 per cent of the target set this year. These branches of the bank disbursed Tk 19.37 crore as loan which was 81.32 per cent of the target set for the fiscal year 1996-97. BKB had reallocated outstanding loan amounting to Tk 21.26 crore from the borrowers during the same period.

Fake invigilator arrested

SIRAJGANJ, Jun 21: A fake invigilator was arrested and sent to the jail *hajat* by a magistrate at Karotoa Degree College HSC centre in Shahjadpur thana recently, reports UNB.
Police said arrested Mohir Uddin, 30, headmaster of Talgachi High School, in collaboration with principal of the college was discharging the duties as invigilator and supplying copies to the candidates on payment. The on-duty Magistrate Fakhruddin Ahmed, on secret information, caught him red-handed while supplying copies to the examinees. While checking the list of the invigilators the magistrate found the name of the headmaster missing. The arrested man later confessed his guilt. A case was filed with the police.

Safe Motherhood Day observed

JAMALPUR, Jun 21: Safe Motherhood Day was observed here on May 28 by Bangladesh Family Planning Association (FPAB), Jamalpur branch, reports BSS.
A meeting was held in observance of the day at Bharuakhali High School. Family Development Centre (FDC), Ghoradhap union organised the meetings. About 100 female members of the centre attended the meeting presided over by its president Shikha Rani Roy. The importance of safe motherhood day was highlighted by district project officer Gazi Golum Mousa. Two feature films on family life was later shown by mobile film unit of FPAB.

Indian goods seized

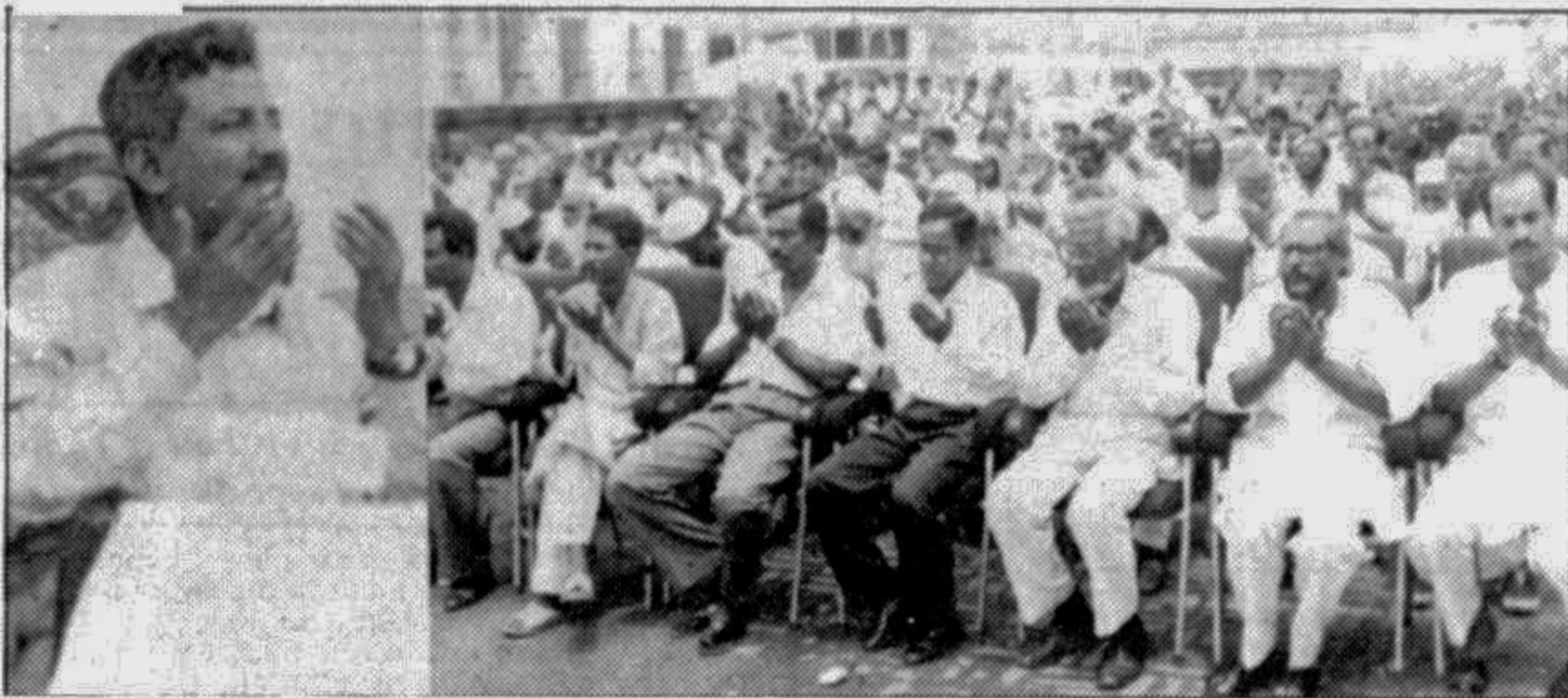
JOYPURHAT, Jun 21: Task force and Bangladesh Rifles seized Indian goods including Phensidyl worth of Tk two lakh from bus N Naoda on Tuesday, reports UNB.
Official sources said acting on tip-off, the task force members with the help of jawans of Panchganj BDR camp raided the Jopurhat bound bus coming from Hilly at 6 pm and recovered the contrabands. The goods included 78 bottles of Phensidyl syrup, huge quantity of medicines, oil, shampoo and cosmetics of different types. The recovered goods were deposited with the local Customs godown. A case was filed in this regard.

Wheat distributed among distressed

CHUADANGA, Jun 21: A total of 237 tonnes of wheat was distributed among 6,200 distressed families of the four thanas of Chuadanga district during the last three months under the special Vulnerable Group Development (VGD) programme of the government, reports BSS.
According to an official source, 67.2 tonnes of wheat was distributed among 1,400 disced families of Chuadanga sadar thana, 124.8 tonnes among 2600 families of Alamdanga thana, 6.7 among 1,400 families of Damurhuda thana and 38.4 tonnes of wheat among 800 families of Jibannagar thana. The special VGD programme was introduced in the district due to price hike of rice.

Tk 45 cr uplift projects planned

RANGAMATI, Jun 21: The Khagrachhari Hill District Local Government Council plans to implement a package of development projects at a cost of Taka 45 crore to uplift the socio-economic condition of the people living in the district, reports BSS.
The projects are funded by different foreign agencies following the signing of the peace accord. A total of 50 projects for setting up 150 primary schools in inaccessible areas of all the thanas in the district has been taken up while seven health service and malaria control centres and 25 family welfare centres will be established, officials said adding 66 projects were taken up to uphold religious of tribals and non-tribals as well as to develop their culture and heritage.



RAJSHAHI: Mayor of Rajshahi City Corporation announced a package programme at a cost of Taka 6 crores for development of educational and religious institutions at a gathering of elite, educationists and religious personalities of the city recently at the premises of the city corporation. — Star photo

Number of drug addicts on rise in Pabna

PABNA, Jun 21: The number of drug addicted people is increasing alarmingly as the drug business continued unabated before the eyes of the administration in the district, reports UNB.
A section of women are also engaged overtly in the business along with their male members. One local official of Directorate of Narcotics Control said, the number of people addicted with phensidyl is increasing day by day along with heroine addiction.
A survey of the directorate said, over 100 people died due to heroine addiction in the last 14 years here. Another recently conducted report said, there are at least 5,000 heroin and 2000 phensidyl addicts in the district.
The district administration and other social service organizations admitted the increasing drug addiction in the district.
Concerned sources said, an influential section of vested quarters are engaged in smuggling heroine, phensidyl and other intoxicants from India and are doing brisk business with the help of some unscrupulous law enforcers.
According to local people, heroine is being sold at Old Bus Stand, Atoa, Sadhupara, Kacharipara, Kashipur, Anontapur, Gachpara, Maligacha, Dogachi, Varara and Ataikula areas in the town and suburbs. No body dares to protest their activities for fear of attack by their hired musclemen.
Many guardians have already handed over their drug addicted wards to the police. Police sources said at pre-

sent there are about 200 heroine addicted people in the district jail.
When contacted, Deputy Director of Narcotics Control of Pabna sub-region Khushi Mohan Biswas informed that the number of heroine addicted people is on alarming rise.
The official said, "many a time we cannot nab the heroine smugglers and sellers after the specific information due to shortage of manpower, necessary arms and ammunition and non-availability of police force."
"There is a possibility of being killed, if we go to arrest them without necessary weapon," Biswas said.
Biswas also said despite limitation, the culprits are being rounded up to contain increasing drug trafficking in the district.



RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY: Artistes rendering songs at the Eid Reunion function arranged by the university ladies club recently. — Star photo

Four killed in Magura road accidents

From our correspondent
MAGURA, Jun 21: Four persons including minors and old persons were killed in separate road accidents within a span of short period in the district police and family sources said.
Harej Molla, 80, was killed under the wheels of a speeding truck at Shekhpara on Magura-Jessore road running via Arpara on May 12.
Asia Khatun, 9, a minor girl was crushed under the wheels of a speeding microbus on the same road at Jagla when the micro bus fell down in a ditch on May 11.
Manindra Nath Biswas, 55, was crushed under the wheels of a speeding truck in front of Magura vegetables market on Magura-Jhenidah road on May 2.
Hasib, 9, a minor boy was crushed under the wheels of a running truck in front of Magura BRAC office on Magura-Kamarkhal road on the same day. Separate cases have been lodged with Magura thana.

Touch stone statue recovered in Pabna

From our correspondent
PABNA, Jun 21: An idol of God Shiva, made of touchstone, weighing 90 kilograms, was recovered by CID police, Pabna Sujanagar thana police recently from a house in village Narayanpur under Sujanagar thana.
According to CID police, the value of the idol has been estimated to be about Taka one crore.
Police, while recovering the idol, arrested Moksed Pramank, son of Khabir Uddin of the aforesaid village. Abdul Kader Pramank, brother of Moksed Ali, however, fled away while he was going to be arrested along with his brother. The CID police sources said that the accused brothers were trying to sell the idol secretly. On receiving this information from a secret source, they contacted them in the guise of purchasers. They took 4/5 months for collecting the information and also for bargaining for the fixation of price. Ultimately they agreed to fix the price at Taka 50 lakhs.
After that, the CID sources further said, they fixed the date of taking delivery of the idol. They reached the house in plain dress.
When they were handing over the statue, CID officials disclosed their identity and arrested one of the two accused persons.

Employees of 179 UPs in Comilla deprived

From our correspondent
JHENIDAH, Jun 21: Three persons were killed in three separate incidents in Jhenidah district on Thursday last, according to police sources.
Police said, Sarwar Hossain, 17, of village Armeekh under Kaliganj thana was killed while his rival groups threw 'teta' on him. Five others received injuries and rushed to a local clinic for treatment.
Muniruddin, 60, of village Luchia in the same thana was allegedly killed by his son Nur Ali on the same day. The ill-fated father was killed following a dispute over distribution of his land among his children.
Maznu alias Nazul Islam, 24, of village Alphapur in Saikupa thana was beaten to death allegedly by a group of youngmen on the same day. Killers called Maznu outside his house and killed him. Village rivalry was behind the killing, police said.
Separate cases were filed with the respective police stations and the bodies were sent to morgue for autopsy.

Power supply situation reviewed

From our correspondent
FARIDPUR, Jun 21: An emergency meeting to review the electricity supply situation in the district was held on Sunday morning in the conference room of the deputy commissioner, reports BSS.
Deputy Commissioner, AFM Abdul Hoque Chowdhury was in the chair.
The DC at the very outset of the meeting read out an urgent fax directive of the government to the authorities concerned to ensure stable supply of power and its rational management, check misuse of power and ensure protection of power installations.
After detailed discussions with PDB and REB officials it was decided that maximum care would be taken to ensure load management properly. It was also decided that all shops and establishments except food and medicine shops would remain closed in the evening. No welding would be allowed to function during the peak hour. Violators would be dealt with as per law.
A committee was also formed to monitor the decisions. Proper care would be taken so that members of public can enjoy World Cup matches on television.

Number of jobless youths on rise in Madaripur

From our correspondent
MADARIPUR, Jun 21: The number of educated unemployed youths is on rise in the district due to lack of employment opportunities, reports UNB.
According to a survey conducted by a social welfare organisation, some 20,000 educated youths are passing their days in great anxiety.
The meeting was aimed at creating mass awareness against smuggling. Md Nazul Islam, Deputy Commissioner of Nawabganj was in the chair. Among others, Golam Mostofa, Thana Nirbahi Officer (TNO) of Shibganj thana, Md Mojibur Rahman, ASP (circle), Azizur Rahman, District Adjutant of Ansar and VDP, Prof Kamal Uddin, Durlavpur UP Chairman, Delwar Hossain, Binodpur UP Chairman and the Head master of Durlavpur high school, Harendranath Paramanik addressed the meeting.
Other members of the district and thana anti-smuggling committee were also present in the meeting.

Sribordi College facing various problems

SHERPUR, Jun 21: Sribordi Government College in Sribordi thana here is facing manifold problems causing untold sufferings to the students, reports UNB.
The college is situated at the bottom of Garo hill in the northern border of Bangladesh. The college was set up on three acres of land in 1969 at the initiative of some local philanthropists in order to expand the scope of higher education in the area.
The college was nationalised in 1987 and some 1500 students are now studying here. Of

them, female students are 25 per cent. The college was adjudged as the best institution of the district in 1993.
Now the college is facing various problems due to shortage of teachers and lack of adequate classroom accommodation.
Out of 34 posts, 20 teachers are there in the college. Seven posts of teachers have, very recently, fallen vacant as they were transferred elsewhere.
There are Arts, Science and Commerce departments at the intermediate level and only Arts department in Degree level in the college.

No post has yet been created for a librarian. The students are facing problem due to acute shortage of classroom. The only toilet of the college is lying in dilapidated condition which has become unfit for use due to lack of care.
The only hostel of the college is also beset with manifold problems which has the accommodation for only 30 students.
The local people have urged the authority to modernise the college with full-fledged degree courses and residential quarters for the teachers.

Load-shedding causes price-hike of essentials in Sylhet

SYLHET, Jun 21: Frequent load-shedding and erratic power supply coupled with sultry weather paralysed the normal life of the people in the district, reports UNB.
Production in mills and factories and irrigation at the crop fields are being affected adversely creating panic among the people.
Meanwhile, prices of essentials are going upward day by day hitting the low-income group of people.
Official sources said only 26 megawatt electricity is being supplied on an average in 11 thanas of district per day against the requirement of 48 megawatt.
The situation turned worst as the electric poles at few places were damaged either in the recent storm or floods leaving these areas under darkness after the sundown.
Many rice mills and other

small factories are forced to stop production due to scarcity of electricity. The HSC examinees are the worst sufferers.
A PDB official said that the load-shedding might have been improved if the supply could be increased at least to 70 megawatts every day in Sylhet division.
Meanwhile, a mobile court started disconnecting illegal power lines to improve the situation.
Our Staff Correspondent from Barisal reports: Unruly mob of more than one hundred people of Khepupara of Patuakhali district attacked, ransacked and damaged Khepupara electric substation protesting continuous load-shedding for 15 to 20 hours everyday in Khepupara bandar area recently.
Angry people also alleged that some PDP employees have been collecting money illegally from the power consumers of Khepupara giving some illegal facilities ignoring the public demand.
However, police controlled the situation after the incident.

Self-styled peer arrested
JAMALPUR, Jun 21: A self-styled peer of Bobabaid area in the town was arrested early Wednesday on charge of forcing his wife into flesh trade, reports UNB.
Police said peer Kamaluddin Khan was arrested after his third wife, Jolly Akhter Mukta, filed a case with the local police accusing him of involving her in sex trade and perpetrating torture on her.
Mukta told the police that her husband Kamal, just three days after their marriage, forced her to bed with his followers.

Husband to die for killing wife in Comilla

From our correspondent
COMILLA, Jun 21: One person was sentenced to death for murdering his wife for dowry by a Special Court on Repression Against Women and Children on Wednesday.
The convict was identified as Abdul Jalil, 30, of Rajapur village in Buirichang thana.
The case history in brief is that Jalil aided by his parents tortured his wife Jahanara Begum, 20, to death on March 25, 1996 as she failed to bring dowry from her father.
Jahanara's father, Sharafat Ali, of the nearby village found her daughter's body abandoned in the house and filed a case against Jalil and his parents.
After examining the witnesses and records, the judge found Jalil guilty of murder and handed down the judgement.
The court, however, acquitted Jalil's father Abdul Latif and mother Rowshan Ara as the allegation against them was not proved.

Complainant allegedly killed by absconding convicted persons

From our correspondent
NATORE, Jun 21: A complainant of a case was allegedly murdered by the absconding convicted persons of the case at West Madhnagar village of Sadar thana on June 14, police and witnesses said.
According to sources, Milon along with his brother Islam and their father Shahadat Hossain of the same village raided the house of Amjad Hossain on June 14 morning and took away Amjad. Later on the day, Amjad's dead body was recovered from a nearby crop-field with sign of a number of stabbing.
The victim's son Mijanur Rahman filed a case with sadar thana in this connection, against 10 persons. He alleged that Milon, Islam, Shahadat Hossain and their seven other companions killed Amjad with sharp weapons.
However, police arrested seven out of 10 accused persons. About one year ago, the Additional District Magistrate of Natore, in a verdict of a case filed by Amjad Hossain, con-

victed Milon and Islam. He sentenced them to suffer imprisonment for five years and one year respectively.
The convicted persons were absconding since the judgement.
Five robbers surrender in Feni
FENI, Jun 21: Five notorious robbers here surrendered to police on Friday in order to return to normal life, reports UNB.
Mamtas Ali, Alauddin, Haris Ali, Abdur Rouf and Mobarak Ali of Natun Khane Bari village in sadar thana encouraged by their UP chairman Abul Hashem came to the police station and surrendered to the police.
Assistant Police Super (Circle) Abdul Momen, District Sadar thana OC Kamrul Islam along with hundreds of local people were present on the occasion.

Anti-smuggling meet at C'nawabganj

From our correspondent
CHAPAINAWABGANJ, Jun 21: An anti-smuggling meeting was held recently at Durlavpur high school premises.
The meeting was aimed at creating mass awareness against smuggling. Md Nazul Islam, Deputy Commissioner of Nawabganj was in the chair. Among others, Golam Mostofa, Thana Nirbahi Officer (TNO) of Shibganj thana, Md Mojibur Rahman, ASP (circle), Azizur Rahman, District Adjutant of Ansar and VDP, Prof Kamal Uddin, Durlavpur UP Chairman, Delwar Hossain, Binodpur UP Chairman and the Head master of Durlavpur high school, Harendranath Paramanik addressed the meeting.
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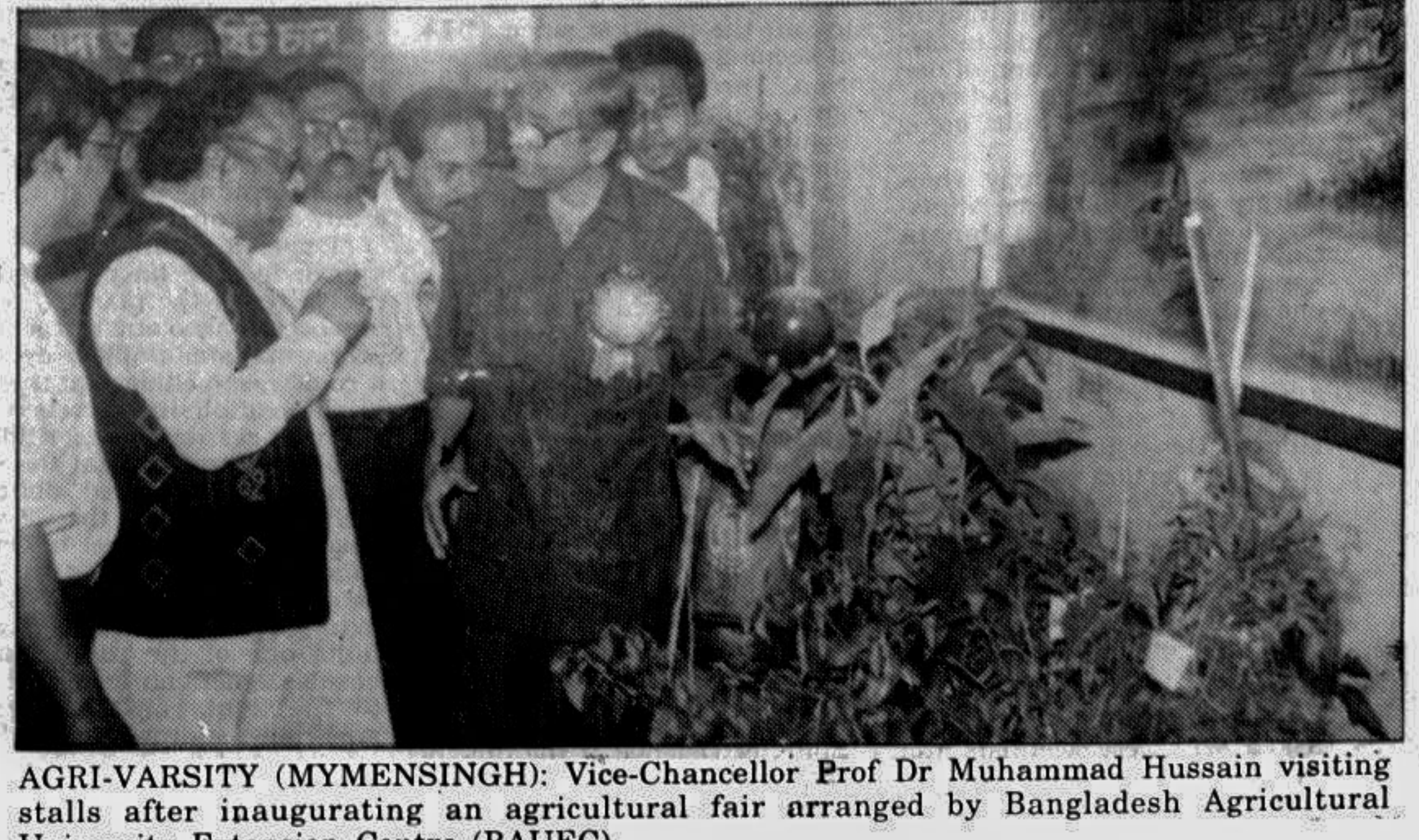
Most hotels do not follow sanitary regulations

From our correspondent
RAJSHAHI, Jun 21: Most of the hotels and restaurants in the city area here are engaged in selling unhygienic foodstuffs causing health hazards, reports UNB.
These hotels do not follow the sanitary regulations and prepare food items in most unhygienic manner which caused outbreak of various stomach diseases among the customers, local physicians said.
Hotel-restaurants at many places including Shaheb Bazar, Old Bus Stand of Kumar Para, Tulapat, Barnali, Railgate, Rail Station, Lakhmipur, Keti, Binodpur and University areas were established in an unhealthy environment. At some places, hotels were established over drains with the bamboo materials.
Food items in these hotels are kept open almost all the time and various insects and dust contaminate these extensively.
Moreover, the dishes are not washed properly by the workers.
People are being affected with many diseases by taking these unclean and stale foods.

On the other hand, officials and employees of the department allegedly take bribe regularly from owners of these hotels and restaurants.
The town dwellers urged the authority concerned to look into the matter and take necessary measures in this regard without further delay.

Obituary

RANGAMATI, Jun 21: Bangshi Mohan Chakma, father of immediate past chairman of Rangamati Hill District Local Government Council, Rabindra Lal Chakma died of old-age complications at his village home in Belaichari thana headquarters of the district on Friday at the age of 114, reports BSS.
He left behind three sons, two daughters and a host of relatives to mourn his death.



AGRI-VARSITY (MYMENSINGH): Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr Muhammad Hussain visiting stalls after inaugurating an agricultural fair arranged by Bangladesh Agricultural University Extension Centre (BAUEC).