## Newssnaps

Bus stand at Chamraghat needed

KISHOREGANJ, June 27: Passengers on Kishoreganj-Chamraghat route in the district have been facing acute problems due to absence of a bus stand at Chamraghat, reports UNB.

The travelling passengers have to get down from their buses at Munikandi Bazar, about 2 km west of Chamraghat and are forced to hire rickshaw or country-boats to go to their destination in the haor areas of Kishoreganj, Netrakona, Sunamganj and Habiganj districts. Traffic congestion is a regular feature at Munikandi Bazar due to increasing number of rickshaws, said the passengers. Local people have urged the authorities to construct a bus stand at Chamraghat as soon as possible to mitigate the sufferings of passengers of the route.

Boro seeds procurement drive going on

RANGPUR, June 27: The procurement drive of Boro seeds during the current season in Rangpur zone is going on, reports

About 60 metric tons of seeds have been collected so far from contact farmers since the drive started from June 6. Officials sources said BADC has fixed up a procurement target of 323 MT of Boro seeds from the contact growers in the zone during the current season. Seed paddy has been cultivated in the exhibition blocks at Nilphamari-Domar Khamar, Taraganj-Mithapukur, Shatibari-Halenchapur, Mohiarpur-Abdullapur, Phirgacha and Kotwali in the zone by 139 selected contact growers. BADC supplied the base seeds of BR-14, BR-16, BR-26 and BR-29 varieties among the growers.

**Body recovered** 

MANIKGANJ, June 27: The body of a missing man was recovered from Radhanagar Eidgan Maidan in Saturia thana on Tuesday, reports UNB.

Police said Lokman Ali, 60, an affluent man of Paragaon-Noyapara village in Savar thana, remained untraced since he came out on his house to go to Harganj on Sunday. On information, police recovered his body with wounds from the maidan and sent it to Sadar Hospital for post-mortem. An unnatural death case was filed with police in this connection.

#### Housewife killed for dowry

MYMENSINGH, June 27: A young housewife was killed reportedly at her father-in-law house at Bhabkhali-Beltali-Daspara in Sadar thana on Thursday, reports UNB.

Police said Sufia Begum, 22, wife of Shahidul Islam, was tortured by the family members of her father-in-law for dowry Sufia was rushed to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital where he succumbed to her injuries soon after admission. A UD case was filed with Kotwali thana in this connection.

Drug addicts on rise

KISHOREGANJ, June 27: Antisocial activities have been vitiating the social environment of the town here due to alarming rise in number of drug addicts, reports UNB.

The addicts are mostly students and people from low income group like ricksawpullers, sweepers and transport workers. Local people said to meet the cost of drugs the addicts are also engaged in various antisocial activities like snatching, mugging and smuggling. The town-dwellers said it is difficult to come out of the house after the sunset as the addicts become active then and whenever they get chance they attack the passerby and took away belongings forcibly. Physicians and social workers said the number of addicts are on rise due to lack of social awareness, family control, shortage of employment opportunities and other frustrations.

#### Donation distributed

HABIGANJ, June 27: Pourashava authorities here have distributed Tk 2.5 lakh as donation to 73 social, cultural, sports and religious organisations for conducting their activities, reports UNB.

A cheque distribution function was arranged on the occasion on Monday with Chairman of the municipality Shahid Chowdhury in the chair. Addressing the occasion, Chowdhury said the amount has been donated as annual grant as it is the responsibility of the municipality to patronise these organisations. Later the chairman formally handed over cheques of various amount to the officials of 44 organisations. Ward Commissioners and officials of the municipality were present on the occa-

Sanction for development of colleges

MADARIPUR, June 27: The Facilities Department of the Education Ministry sanctioned Taka 78 lakh, in 1997-98, fiscal year for the development of two colleges in Madaripur district, reports BSS.

According to an official source, the renovation of Madaripur Sufia Mohila College and Charmoguria Degree College will be completed by the end of the 1998.

#### Workshop on writing on women issues

RANGAMATI, June 27: A three-day workshop on 'writing on women issue concluded here on Monday in the conference room of Rangamati Hill District Local Government Council, reports

Twenty-two journalists working with the regional and national dailies and other media including four female free lance journalists participated in the workshop, organised by News Network, a news feature agency. Hasan Shahriar, vice-president of the London-based Commonwealth Journalists Association distributed certificates among the participants at the concluding session of the workshop as the chief guest. Shahiduz-zaman, Editor of the News Network presided over the function.

#### FWP schemes going on in full swing

CHUADANGA, June 27: All the 53 schemes taken under Food for Works Programme (FWP) in the current financial year in four thanas of Chuadanga district are in full swing and will be completed next week, an official source said, reports BSS.

Of the total schemes 13 are being implemented in Chuadanga sadar thana, 18 in Alamdanga thana, 14 in Damurhuda thana and eight schemes in Jibannagar thana. The source said 400 metric tons of wheat was sanctioned for implementation of the schemes. The schemes include construction of kutcha roads in the rural areas.

#### 342 coastal community centres may collapse

LAXMIPUR, June . 27: Some 342 coastal community centres, built three decades ago, in nine coastal districts are on the verge of collapse due to lack of proper care and maintenance, reports

Official sources said, some 108 two-storey and 216 onestorey community centres had been built in 35 thanas of Laxmipur, Noakhali, Feni, Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, Bhola, Pirojpur, Barguna and Patuakhali districts after the devastating cyclones during pre-'70s. These centres were built under Coastal Rehabilitation Project with a view to protecting lives and valuables from cyclone and conducting official works by UP and government offices during normal period. But, for want of maintenance and necessary renovation works the buildings became dilapidated and some of those already disappeared into the rivers. Other old buildings may collapse any moment, local people said.

#### Road-side afforestation programme taken up BANDARBAN, June 27: The Forest Department here has taken up road-side tree plantation programme for the first

time, reports UNB. Forest officials said under the programme, the plantation will start from the current financial year and end in 2004. The saplings will be planted at both sides of total 125 kilometres road in the district. These include 45-km Bandarban-Roangchhari road, 45-km Bandarban-Ruma road, 24-km Bandarban-Rajvila road and Bandarban-Keranihat road. The officials said the roads were cleared by felling of tree from both sides of various roads in the district in the past due to the then existing situation. They said the afforestation programme will create valuable forest resources as well as help protect

#### Interest free credit programme

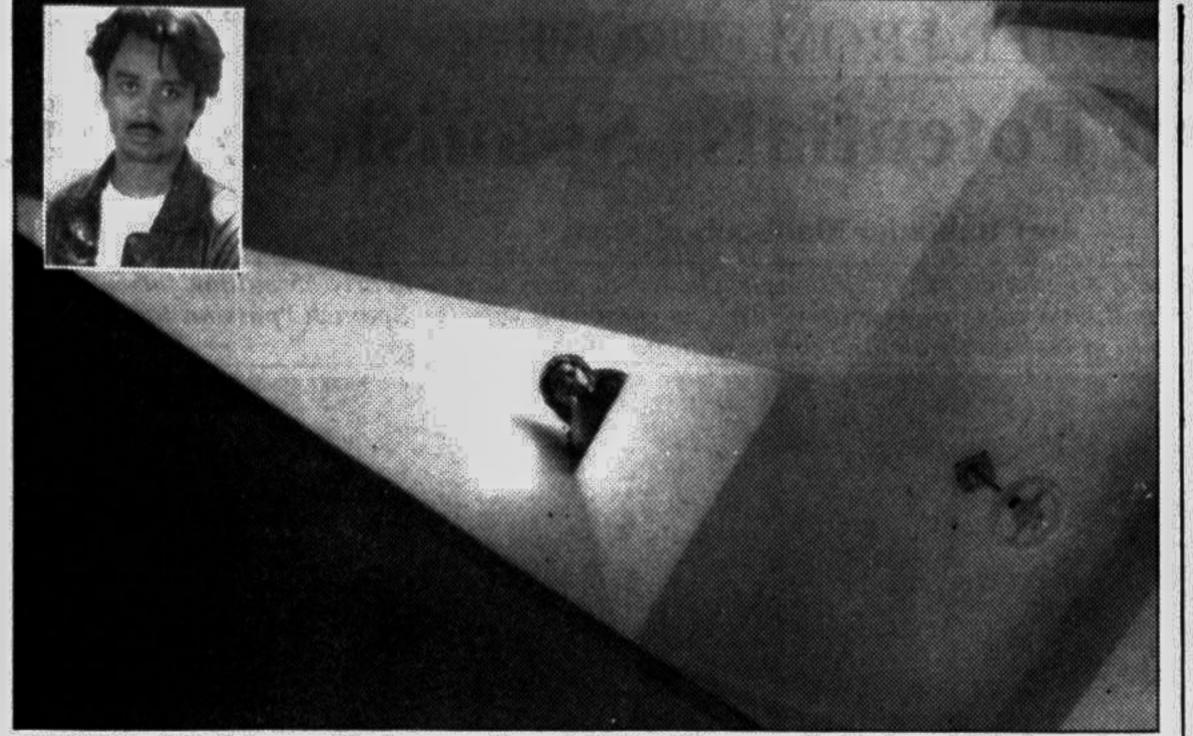
environment.

RANGAMATI, Jun 27: Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB) has taken up an interest-free credit programme to uplift the secie-economic condition of the rural people, reports BSS. Officials said the government had sanctioned Taka 50 lakh in its second phase of integrated community development project for implementation of the credit programme of the BRDB. The project sponsored by the UNICEF has been implemented by the Chittagong Hill District Development

#### Rangamati-Bandarban bus service needed RANGAMATI, June 27: Bus service between Rangamati and

Bandarban district headquarters has not been established despite the construction of the road two years ago, reports UNB. Local people said the importance of establishing road links among the hill districts has increased much with the end of hostilities in the region through signing of CHT peace treaty. Many offices including the Regional Council office will be set up in the region and the people have to maintain regular contact with the offices. Besides, movement of people is likely to

increase manifold with various development programmes undertaken here. Among the three district headquarters, Khagrachhari is connected with Rangamati, the main town of the hill tracts, while there is no bus service between Rangamati and Bandarban.



SYLHET: MH Rahman Moni, a member of Sylhet Photographic Society (SPS) bagged the first prize in the 5th National Photographic Contest organised by Chittagong Photographic Society (CPS) recently. The photo titled: 'Innocent Look' got the award, in the colour group while his another photograph titled: 'Education' also got award in the black and - Star photo white group.

## Road accidents on rise in Kushtia

From Our Correspondent

KUSHTIA, June 27: Road accidents are on rise in Kushtia due to reckless driving and defective vehicles.

Absence of traffic police in vulnerable places of Kushtia town are also identified as causes of accidents. A total of 23 persons lost their lives in road accidents in various parts of the district, mostly on highways during the last five and a half months. In January, three pesons were killed in road accidents while in February it rose to 10. In March it came down to four. In April two persons were killed while in May there was none. In June four persons were killed within a span of two

Most of the accidents took place due to negligence of drivers of trucks and buses. Almost all those killed were innocent passengers of rickshaw van which were hit by speeding trucks or buses in their mad races. Of the serious accidents six were killed and two others injured when a

speeding bus hit an auto -rickshaw from behind on Kushtia-Jhenidah road on February 2 night.

Another serious accident took place on June 5 .Three per-

### BAF to plant 10,000 saplings

JESSORE, June 27: Bangladesh Air Force (BAF) has launched a massive afforestation programme throughout the BAF installations as part of the national tree plantation programme, reports BSS. Chief of the Air Staff Air

Vice Marshal Jamal Uddin Ahmed inaugurated the plantation programme at BAF Base Matiur Rahman here on Thurs-

BAF will plant 10,000 fruit and wood saplings in different air bases, units and squadrons. Senior BAF officers of the base were present on the occa-

sons were killed and five others injured seriously on Kushtia -Jhenidah road when three speeding trucks in thier mad race tried to overtake each other near LGED office. The trucks hit there rickshaw -vans from behind. In those accidents more than 100 persons were injured and many of them lost their limbs and became handicapped.

Hospital sources said almost every day they have to admit patients of road accidents with injuries . Recently the rush of such persons have increased.

When contacted police station officials said , lack of proper knowledge about driving has been identified as the major cause of road accidents in most

Indisciplined movement of rickashaws and rickshaw- vans and its increasing number in the town area and lack of knowledge on proper traffic laws are also the cause of road accidents.



BRAHMANBARIA: The year long birth centenary programme of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam began here recently. Combined Nazrul Birth Centenary Celebration Council arranged various befitting programmes on the occasion. Star photo

Md Majid Molla, Chairman

of Gayeshpur Union Parishad,

Coordinator of Bikoshito

Magura, Shahadat Hossain,

Medical Assistant of Gayeshpur

WC. Md Majid Biswas, Inspector

of WC and teachers of Masalia

Girls' School spoke on the

brutal killing of the Headmas-

ter and expressed their pro-

found grief and shock. They

also demanded of the authori-

ties to bring the culprits to

cluding students and teachers of

Bikoshito Magura were present

recovered the deadbody of the

murdered Headmaster from a

jute field at Sabinagar on June

19. Md Mizanur Rahman SP.

Magura and OC of Sripur thana

already visited the spot

following filing of a case with

Old-age allowance

programme

introduced in Pabna

Minister for Information Prof

Abu Sayeed on Friday said the

present government, by intro-

ducing old-age allowance programme, had been implement-

ing and unprecedented and

epoch making step in the coun-

ment of the present government

led by Prime Minister Sheikh

Hasina to make Bangladesh

ing as the chief guest at the cer-

emony marking introduction of

old-age allowance at the local

circuit house. A total of 2,880

elderly people will get old-age

allowance in the district under

Prof Abu Sayeed was speak-

He reiterated the commit-

JOYPURHAT, June 27: State

A large number of people in-

An earlier report says: Police

The speakers condemned the

Daily Star presided.

occasion.

book.

on the occasion.

Sripur thana.

try, reports BSS.

free from poverty.

this programme.

## Punishment to killers of headmaster demanded

From Our Correspondent

MAGURA, Jun 27: The murder of Akhil Kumar Das. 32. Headmaster of Masalia Junior Girls' High School in Sripur thana was condemned at a condolence meeting held at the school premises on Tuesday.

Das, the founder Headmaster of the school was brutally killed by miscreants at Sabinagar village of Sripur thana on June 18 night.

Jahangir Molla, Thana Nirbahi officer (TNO), Sripur was the chief guest. Jafar Ali Benu. Headmaster, Nabagram High School and President of Sripur Press Club, Assistant Commissioner of Land, Sripur were special guests in the condolence meeting. Monojit Kumar Das, Headmaster of Naboday Girls High School and Magura district correspondent of The

#### Obituary

From Our Correspondent MOULVI BAZAR, June 27: Al-Hai Mohammed Abdur Rashid, former chairman of Moulvibazar Pourashava died of old age ailments at his residence recently. He was 74. Late Rashid was a very Popu-

lar businessman of the district

He was elected chairman of the century -old Moulvibazar Pourasava in 1965 and served in this capacity since 1973.

During his chairmanship Moulvibazar Pourasava had implemented different modernisation schemes and it became a modern town. From then he was known as a social worker in the town. As a wellknown author, late Rashid wrote many books. His pub-

lished books named 'Adarsha Manab Jiban', 'Osar -E-Jeebone' and 'Oitjya-Smarane' are worth mentioning. He was also a life- member of Moulvibazar Press Club... Late Rashid left behind his

wife, six sons and two daughters to mourn his death.

#### Indian sugar seized From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, Jun 27: A mobile team seized 16 bags of Indian sugar on Gobindaganj-Ghoraghat road. One person was arrested in

this connection on June 22. The mobile team comprising a magistrate, Customs officer and a police contingent chal-

lenged a pick-up van loaded with contraband Indian sugar. The goods were smuggled from Indian territory to Gaibandha.

Police seized all 16 bags of sugar and arrested the driver of the vehicle, Jaharul Islam. The price of seized sugar was estimated at Tk 50,000. A case was filed with Gobin-

dangani thana.

#### Activities of health service development discussed

BOGRA, June 27: The first meeting of the coordination committee on health services development in the district was held with the State Minister for Information Prof Abu Sayeed in the chair at the local circuit house, reports BSS.

The meeting discussed in detail the possible ways and means of solving problems by identifying them in the overall activities of the health service development in the district.

· Helaluzzaman Talukder MP, Kamrun Nahar Putul, MP, Deputy Commissioner and concerned officials were present at the meeting. Earlier, the state minister

inaugurated a tree plantation programme at Bottoli under Khetlal thana of Joypurhat district organised by rickshaw and van workers. Speaking on the occasion,

Prof Abu Sayeed urged all to plant at least one fruit-bearing and one jungle trees to help growth of afforestation allover the country.

# 13 raped in B'baria in 40 days

BRAHMANBARIA, Jun 27: A total of 13 females including minor girls were raped in the district from March 19 to April 28 this year.

The tendency of rape incidents has raised a great concern among the local guardians and peace-loving people of the dis-

A 12-year school girl of Nasirnagar was raped at her village on April 28. On April 22, a five-year-old girl was raped at Kasba in the same thana. In another incident on the same day a woman was raped at village Ghatura in the sadar thana. On April 12 one housewife was raped at village Neeloksni in Nabinagar thana. On April 11 a teenager was raped at Banchharampur thana. On April 5 another teen was raped at Nabinagar. On April 3 one more teenage girl was gangrapped at village Pathoriadder in Kasba thana. On March 30 a 14-yearold girl of Sathmura in Akhaura thana was raped. On March 27 another woman of Nabinagar was raped. On March

AL supporters block

Dhaka-Gazipur

road for 5 hrs

TONGI, June 27: Movement

of vehicles on Dhaka-Gazipur

road was disrupted for five

hours from Thursday midnight

as angry supporters of ruling

party put up barricade near the

and Jubo League barricaded the

road following arrest of thana

Awami League general secretary

Razab Ali and Jubo League joint

secretary Osman Ali on Thurs-

of their involvement in a clash

between two rival groups of

workers at the Dhaka Dyeing

The barricade was with-

drawn at 5 am yesterday at the

intervention of local parlia-

Passengers of night

coaches robbed on

Dhaka-Sylhet Rd

coits looted cash and valuables

of passengers of a number of

night coaches on Dhaka-Sylhet

highway on Thursday night, re-

intercepted the buses, coming

from both Dhaka and Sylhet,

, by felling wood logs on the road at Srishtigarh at 3.30 am and

looted cash and valuables

Passengers said, the robbers

ports UNB.

NARSHINGDI, June, 27: Da-

ment member and police.

They were arrested on charge

Supporters of Awami League

Tongi Bazar, reports UNB.

day, police said.

Factory on June 11.

From Our Correspondent

21 one girl was raped at village Shuhilpur in the sadar thana. On March 20 one teenage girl of village Rasulpur in Nabinagar thana was gangrapped by a group of culprits lead by mus-cleman Habibullah of the same village. The victim was going to a nearby canal to take back her ducks in the evening when she was raped. At one stage the rapists took away all her clothes and left her nacked after raping. On April 24 one girl of Chafullah Kandi village in Banchhapur thana was raped at the same village. On March 19 one girl of Paikpara mohalla in Brahmanbaria pourasava area was gangrapped by some unruly boys of the same area while she was going to buy a candle from a nearby shop. Besides, one teen age girl of Nasirnagar was raped by a madrassah student named Shahjahan Miah, 18, of the same village at nearby Imam's room of a mosque on May 13. She went to pond in the early hours to wash her face and hands. She was flattered by Shahjahan Miah to go to

was raped by the culprit in absence of the Imam. Separate cases were lodged with the respective police sta-

tions of the district. Meanwhile, many more rape incidents have been occurring in various places very off and on, but the guardians of victims usually do not file any cases in fear of the future of their wards

and their social status. Besides, Romeo's roam about aimlessly and tease at school and college going girls on way to their institutions and various points including Kazipara turning point and over-

bridge area in the district town. When this correspondent contacted with the Police Super (SP), Brahmanbaria NBK Tripura, he said, they have arrested many rapists so far, but many cases are ill-motivated and false.

Local elite and the rape victims have urged the authorities concerned to take stern action against the real culprits with a view to checking the unhealthy trend.

## Satkhira Newsletter

SATKHIRA, June 27: Two by taking poison recently.

According to reports, Gouri Bala ,16, wife of Subash Chandra Mondal of village Tarali in Kaliganj thana and Rowshan Ara Begum .24, wife of Mujibur Rahman Sana of village Komorpur in Shyamnagar thana committed suicide by taking poison. Post -mortem of the bodies were done at Satkhira

Two separate unnatural death (UD) cases were lodged with the respective police sta-

Eight shops looted Mirzapur bazar in Tala thana

recently. Taka 90,000 in cash goods

shops of the bazar. Police soueces said, a group of armed dacoits numbering 18 raided the bazar recently. They broke open the doors of the shops including three jewellery shops and looted away cash

the night guard of the bazar A case was lodged with Tala police station in this connec-

worth about Tk 15 lakh. The dacoits beat a number of passengers and damaged the abducted person from Moni-

vehicles. Local people alleged that police were patrolling some 200 yards from the spot but did not come forward to help the pas-

A case was filed with Shibpur thana.

#### Post graduation course to be introduced in RMC

RAJSHAHI, June 27: Post graduation courses will be introduced from the next academic session in Rajshahi Medical College (RMC) to develop the professional skill of the physicians, reports UNB.

Official sources said, for the time being the post graduation courses on two subjects Diploma in Child Health (DCH) and Diploma in Clinical Pathology (DCP) will be introduced.

All preparations have been completed in this regard. The admission process will be completed within the ongoing month and the academic activities will begin by the end of next July.

The long standing demand of the physicians of northern region will be met with the introduction of the course in the medical college.

At the initial phase only eight selected doctors will be admitted in the courses on two subjects, official sources said.

#### Paddy procurement drive in Feni yet to start FENI, June 27: Paddy pro-

curement drive is yet to start here in the ongoing Boro season for reasons unknown to the people, reports UNB. Deputy Director of Agricul-

ture Extension Department here told, the district is known as the surplus food production area for the last eight years.

He said over 2.46 lakh metric tons of paddy on 67,000 acres of land were produced in the current IRRI-Boro season against the total local annual demand of 1.84 lakh metric

On the other hand, district Food Controller Nitai Sen said no paddy procurement centre in the district has been opened due to the deficit production of paddy. Meanwhile, a confusion has

arisen in the minds of the local people over contradictory statements of two officials of the two departments. They are in a fix whether the district is food deficit or food surplus

Mentionable that no paddy procurement centre has been opened in the district this year.

From Our Correspondent

housewives committed suicide

nearby Imam's room where she

morgue

## A dacoity was committed at

The dacoits looted away

worth Taka 80,000 and a motor-bike from eight

valuable goods and motor-bike at dead of night, they also beat

#### Abducted person rescued

Kalaroa police rescued an

rampur thana area recently. Police rescued the victim named Abdul Mazid ,62, from Monirampur area recently after nine days'of his abduction .According to police, Kalaroa police ,acting on a tip-off,raided the house of Abul Kalam of village Chakla in Monirampur

thana and rescued Abdul Mazid from that house.

However, Abul Kalam managed to escape. It is worth mentioning.Mazid was abducted from near Khorda School field at

thanarecently. A case was filed with Kalaroa thana in this connec-

Khorda village in Kalaroa

#### Smuggled goods seized The jawans of 21 Rifles Bat-

talion recovered smuggled goods worth Taka 25,200 from different border areas in three

Local BDR sources said .BDR jawans recovered smuggled goods from different border areas of the district .One alleged smuggler named Palash Kumar Dey of Kotwali thana in Jessore district was arrested.

days recently.

The smuggled goods include sarees, salt.onion , bidi, and

Gay girls on rise Number of gay girls is in-

creasing in different parts of the town recently. As a result, anti-social activities are increasing.Local people said, gay girls roam about in different areas of the town in-

area ,cinema hall,baro bazar mill area and Hagachha bazar. They allure people particularly youths with their

cluding the bus terminal, court

obscenr gesture. Some guardians informed, their young sons have been getting spoiled due to the influence of gay girls.

Elite of the town have urged the authorities concerned to check the growing menace of gay girls and take immediate steps to rehabilitate them so the they can lead a decent life.

#### Two killed in road mishaps

One person was killed when a minibus knocked him down on Satkhira -Khulna road near Bhairabnagar in Tala thana re-

cently. The victim was identified as Prashanta Kumar Das, 22, of village Dhuliadanga in Tala thana. Police sources said, the vic-

tim was coming to Satkhira by riding a bi-cycle and reached at the aforementioned place when a minibus knocked him down from behind. As a result he died on the spot.

A case was lodged with Tala police station in this connec-

Another report adds, A sixyear-old boy crushed under the wheels of a speeding minibus and died on the spot near Alipur in the sadar thana on Satkhira-Kaligonj road recently.

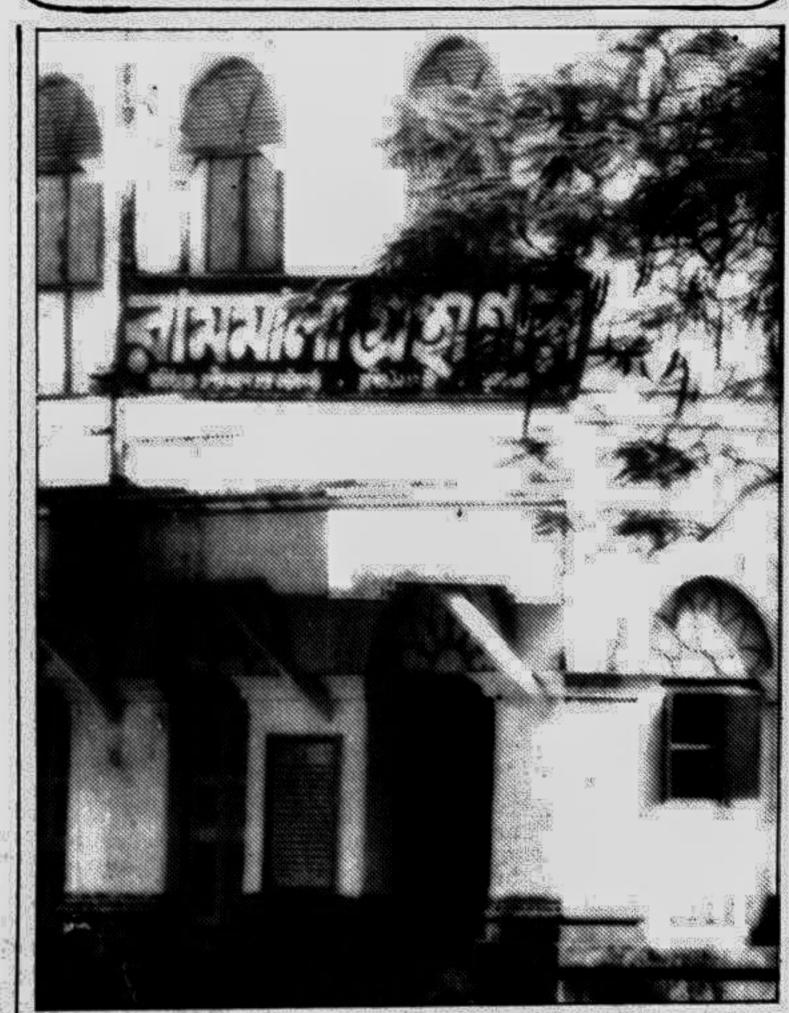
The victim was identified as Ohidur Rahman, 6, son of Asadur Rahman of village Alipore in the sadar thana. Police sources said, the victim was playing beside the road when a speeding minibus

A case was lodged with

Satkhira police station in this

crushed him under its wheels.

connection.



COMILLA: Mohesh Battyacharya established Rammala Library in 1921. It is situated at the centre of the town at Kandirpar, East of Laksham Road. Besides the library, he also established a school, a students' hostel, primary school a stage for drama and other cultural activities here. But this library is being destroyed now due to sheer indifference of the authorities concerned. Many teachers and students of Dhaka and Calcutta Universities took away valuable documents in microfilms from this library. Immediate steps should be taken to save the valuable documents on emergency basis. Star photo by Shaheen Sarwar