# News snaps

### 2 killed in Madaripur road accident

MADARIPUR, Aug 16: Two pedestrians were killed in a road mishap near Bhurghata bus stoppage in Kalkini thana here on Barisal-Faridpur highway, police said, reports UNB.

Of the victims, one was identified as Hashem Hawlader, 55,

of village Ramjanpur in Kalkini thana. Police said the accident occurred when a Faridpur-bound truck dashed the pedestrians leaving them spot dead on July 25. The driver fled the scene with his vehicle and a case was filed with the police.

#### Publication ceremony

BANDARBAN, Aug 16: The launching ceremony of a government publication entitled 'Shwastha Tathya' sponsored by the Ministry of Information was held recently in the conference

room of the Deputy Commissioner here, reports BSS.

Presided over by Mustafa Kamal Pasa, district information officer of Bandarban, the function was attended by deputy Commissioner Atiqul Islam Chowdhury as chief guest and civil surgeon of the district Dr Ahmed Kabir as special guest. About 400 copies of the book were distributed among the government and non-government officers and social workers of the district.

#### Mourning Day observed in Comilla

Comilla, Aug 16: The national mourning day was observed on Saturday in the district with due solemnity, reports UNB. Law minister Abdul Matin Khasru attended the discussion meetings and milad mahfils arranged on the occasion at Burichong and Brammanpara thanas. Special prayer was offered at the end of the milad mahfil and a "Kangali Bhoj" for the flood stricken poor people was also arranged. Secretary of the Brammanpara thana Awami League Jahangir Chowdhury and Secretary of the Burichong thana Jubo League Sajjad Hossain, among others, took part in the discussion. Later in the evening another discussion meeting was also arranged by the district Awami League which was attended by the Law Minister and the district Awami League leaders.

#### 3 killed in Feni road accident

FENI, Aug 16: Three people were killed on the spot and 10 other injured when a passenger bus was hit from behind by another one on Feni-Khagrachhari Road at Heyako, about 35 km from the town, on Wednesday, reports UNB.

The dead were identified as Shankar Kumar, 17, Shuvo, 8, and Yunus, 26. The injured were admitted to the Feni Hospital and local clinics. Another message adds: A seven-month old girl child was murdered following a quarrel between two families on Wednesday here. Police said at one stage of their quarrel the woman of the rival family snatched away the baby Mousumi, daughter of Nur Islam of Jagatpur village in Daghanbhuiyan thana from her mother and killed her by breaking her neck.

#### Snatcher stabs 2 people

BARGUNA, Aug 16: A snatcher stabbed two people including a woman mercilessly in broad daylight at Maitha in the outskirts of the town on Wednesday and took away Tk 13,000 from them, reports UNB.

Police said the victims, identified as Abdur Razzak and Honufa, both the members of Grameen Bank Gourichinna branch, were going to Barguna area office of the bank when they came under attack by he mugger. They drew the money from the bank. Hospital sources said serious wound was inflicted on Razzak's lunge and he was rushed to the Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital in a critical condition. Police identified the snatcher as Halim, 25, but failed to arrest him as yet. A case was lodged in this connection.

#### Man killed in Khulna road accident

KHULNA, Aug 16: A man was killed and 12 others were injured when two mini buses collided head on in Dumuria thana on Khulna-Satkhira highway on Thursday morning, reports

Of the injured, eight were rushed to the Khulna Medical College Hospital while the rest were sent to Dumuria Health Complex. The drivers of both the mini buses managed to flee the scene. Police seized the vehicles. The dead was identified as Abdul Hakim. A case was filed with the police.

#### Wanted criminal arrested

FARIDPUR, Aug 16: Police arrested one wanted criminal of this town recently with a foreign made revolver in his possession, reports BSS

According to police sources, police was trying to nab one Shawkat, 22, for his involvement in various criminal activities. Shawkat, a resident of Goalchamot area was arrested by a police squad while he was moving in front of Banalata Cinema Hall. Police also recovered a foreign made revolver from his possession.

### Janmastami celebrated

SATKHIRA, Aug 16: Janmastami marking the birth anniversary of Lord Sri Krishna was celebrated in Satkhira district on Friday with due solemnity and religious fervour, re-

Shwami Vivekanda Jubo Parishad, Satkhira brought out a procession from old Satkhira mandir to Tala thana mandir premises. A discussion meeting on the life and philosophy of Lord Sri Krishna organised by Satkhira Mandir Samity was held at old Satkhira mandir premises in the afternoon. Other programme of the day included free plantation and free medical treatment for distitutes.

### **Education Week concludes**

MANIKGANJ, Aug 16: District level Education Week '98 concluded here recently, reports BSS.

Elaborate programmes were arranged on this occasion. Competitions were held on telawat, hamd-naat, recitation, essay writing, extempore speach, extempore acting, Tagore song, Nazrul song, folk song and dancing. Selected students of seven thanas of the district took part in the competition. Education seminar and prize giving ceremony was held at the concluding day at the town hall. Md Abdur Razzaque, Deputy Commissioner. Manikganj was present as the chief guest in the meeting.

### Irrigation project implemented

MAGURA, Aug 16: The Water Development Board (WDB) has implemented an irrigation project in Salikha thana of the dis-

trict at a cost of Tk 8 crore, reports UNB.

A number of canals have been excavated and re-excavated under "Arpara-Kalidaskhali Irrigation Project," said the Executive Engineer of WDB here. The canals include Arpara-Garagram, Kanuda-Bahirmallik, Shoblat-Patharghata, Nakhora-Singra, Ghoshtara-Kalidashkhali, Naotana-Dhopakhali, Narapati-Kuchiamora, Chatkabaria-Dhaokhali, Bhulbaria-Gobindapur, Dhaghalgram-Dhanashwargati and Modhukhali-Ghangarampur. He said eight sluice gates, 14 culverts, two water development structures and 14 embankments have also been constructed under the project.

### T-Aman farming

JHENIDAH, Aug 16: A total of 69,140 hectare have been brought under Transplanted Aman cultivation in the six thanas of the district this year, reports BSS.

Jhenidah District Agriculture Extension Department sources said, of the total land, 15,075 hectares have been brought under high yielding Upshi variety. The production target has been fixed at 1,54,366 tonnes of paddy. The thana-wise break-up is 15,266 hectares in Moheshpur, 3,870 hectares in Kotchandpur, 13,850 hectares in Kaliganj, 8,909 hectares in Shailakupa, 12,025 hectares in Harinakundu and 15,220



PABNA: A flood affected village in Bhangoora thana. — Star photo

## Malaria claims 7 lives in Rangamati

RANGAMATI, Aug 16: Malaria has claimed at least seven lives and attacked over 20,000 persons in the hill district of Khagrachhari last week, local leaders said, reports BSS.

The civil surgeon's office sources, however, told that four persons died of malaria and about 18,000 have been attacked during the last week.

So far 200 malaria patients have been treated at the 50-bed Khagrachhari sadar hospital. As maleria has taken an epidemic form it has become difficult for the hospital authorities to cope with the situation, official sources said.

Five officers at the civil surgeon's office have been served with show-cause notice for their delinquency in handling the maleria situation, resident medical officer Dr Manisha Chakma told. At present there is no civil surgeon posted in the district.

### One killed by unknown assailants

From Our Correspondent

FARIDPUR, Aug 16: A person was killed recently while he was sleeping in his bedroom with his wife and two kids in a separate bed in the same room. The victim was identified as

Abdul Mannan, 45, of village Apania under Dhewkhali union of Sadarpur thana. Though the murder is mystery, it appers from different shades of opinion that the murder had a link to a previous enmity with a powerful man of the locality. A case was lodged with

Sadarpur thana in this connection. But none has yet been ar-

## Three houses, 4 shops looted in Khagrachhari

From Our Correspondent KHAGRACHHARI, Aug 16: Three houses and four shops were looted at different places

of Khagrachhari sadar during the first week of the last month. In the first incident, armed dacoits intruded into a tribal house at Narankhaiya and looted cash, goods and ornaments at gun-point worth about Taka one lakh at dead of night. The dacoits also threatened not to disclose the incident.

In another incident, the armed dacoits looted valuables from a house at Narankhaya

East. Another two incidents occurred at Khagrachhari bazar and Swanirvar bazar of the sadar thana. On that night armed dacoits looted cash and valuables from two shops worth about Taka 2.5 lakh.

After three days of these incident armed dacoits looted again a shop of Swanirvar bazar belonging to Subhash Dev. Amred dacoits also gave threat to the owner of the shop not to file case against them.

## Divisional level offices yet to be shifted in Sylhet

SYLHET, Aug 16: Most of the divisional level offices have not yet been shifted here even after three years of creating a separate division, reports UNB.

The people of the region have to go to Chittagong, Comilla and the capital Dhaka for various official works amid much inconveniences.

They demanded shifting of the divisional level offices here

as early as possible. Sylhet was declared an administrative division on September 24, 1995 by the then

government.

The divisional authorities here have already sent proposal to the government to upgrade 10 offices out of 23 to the divisional level, said the officials. But there is no decision so

far to this effect, they added. The offices include that of the Deputy Director (DD) of Local Government, Government Employees' Welfare Directorate. Secondary and Higher Education, Health, Family Planning. Ansar and VDP, Land Reform Commission and Anti-Corruption Bureau

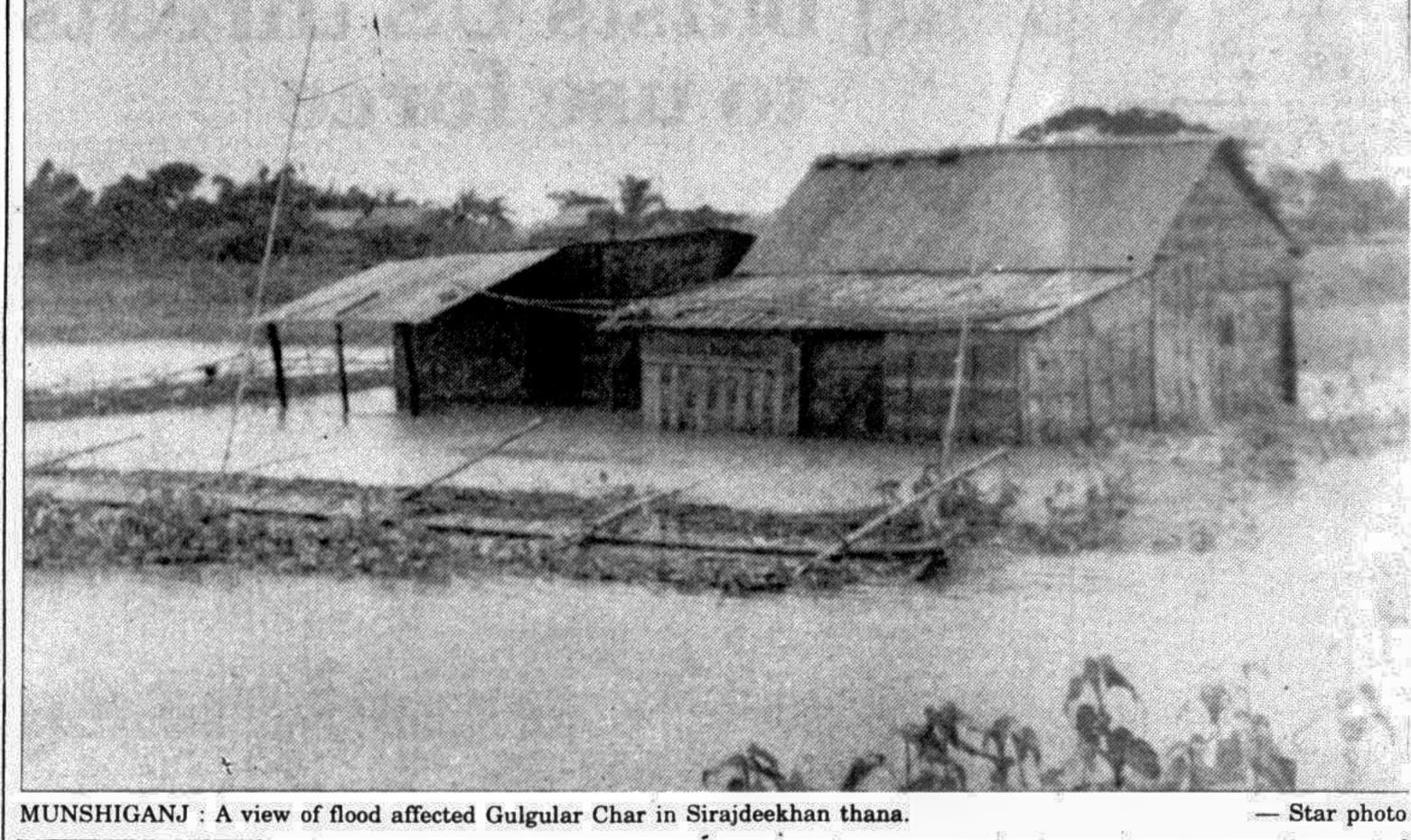
#### drowns, another missing as boat sinks in Netai

NETRAKONA, Aug 16: One person drowned and another person remained missing when a small country boat with four persons on board sank in the river Netai near Bisharpasha, a remote village in Kalmakanda thana here on Sunday, reports

A delayed report, reached here on Tuesday from the remote area, said, the boat which was proceeding toward Bisharpasha bazar from village Barmara in Kalmakanda thana, capsized in the river due to strong current and bad weather.

Immediately after the boat capsized, Ibrahim, 20, son of late Mun Hussain of the village Barmara drowned and Monilal, 28, of the same village remained missing.

Later on local people recovered the body of Ibrahim and salvaged the ill-fated boat. However, they could not trace the body of Monilal who did not know how to swim, the report added.



Aus, Aman, seed-beds on 19,050 hectares damaged in Sylhet

# 50,000 marooned in Barguna dist

BARGUNA, Aug 16: Some 50,000 people living in char areas and outside the flood protection embankment here have been marooned following incessant downpour and rise in water level in the Bay of Bengal. reports UNB.

The low-lying areas of the district went under knee deep flood waters with the rise in water levels of the rivers.

The Bishkhali and the Paira rivers have been flowing well above their respective danger marks at most of the points, said the official source. Some of the areas including

Majher Char, Ashar Char, Char Nindra, Char Chiawana Son akatar Char, Rumirmarar Char, Chhonbuniar Char, Char Lathimara, Laldiar Char and Khottar Char go under four to five feet water during the high tide, said the local people. Most of the areas in the town also go under water during the

high tide. The sea has been very rough during the last few days making it impossible for the fishermen

to catch fish. They are facing hardships due to the inclement weather and a number of fishing boats along with the fishermen abroad remained missing since

The onrush of flood waters caused extensive damage to the standing crops and seedbeds for Aman paddy in most of the areas went under water hampering the cultivation seriously.

adds: Heavy rainfall for the last several days and onrush of hilly waters from across the border caused fresh flood in

Another report from Feni

fected by flood three times within the last few days causing untold sufferings to the affected Flood Control Room sources

said, eight unions of Pourshuram thana were affected due to the intrusion of water through the breaches of embankments of Sreepur, Alka, Satkuchia and Sreechandrapur.

Water was flowing on the

Feni-Belonia rail line hampering the train communication. The affected people have

urged the authority to provide

them with necessary relief ma-

terials to maintain their liveli-Our Sylhet correspondent Igbal Siddiquee reports: The recent flood has caused damage to huge property in 87 unions under 11 thanas of the district. Vast tracts of crop lands.

30,000 families and about one lakh people have been affected Aug Broadnast Aman and seedbeds on 19,050 hectares of land have been damaged very badly official sources said. A total of 416 kilometre road and 28 bridges and culverts have been damaged by flood. The

dwelling houses roads, bridges

and culverts have been damaged

badly in the district. Atleast

Taka 29 crore. According to unofficial sources, the actual damage would be 15 to 20 per cent more

damage caused to the Roads and

Highways department stands at

than the official estimate. The damage caused to the seed beds of Aus and Aman is irreparable.It will positively hit the current year's foodgrain production target in the district apprehend the concerned offi-On the other hand the huge

number of affected people in different areas are yet to get necessary relief materials. The government has so far distributed only one lakh taka as gratuitous relief among the victims, while 125 metric tons of wheat have been sanctioned.A source of the district agriculture office informed, Aus paddy was cultivated on 47,975 hectares, of which 21,700 hectares have been inundated, while Broadcast Aman was cultivated on 28.200 hectares and 6500 hectares went under flood water. The area used for preparing seedbed was 8,000hectares, of which 3,750 hectares have been inundated.Due to huge crop damage, the target of producing 2.24,000 metric tons of paddy would not be achieved in the district this year, concerned offi-

cials apprehend. The target of producing 57,000 metric tons of Aus would also not be achieved the situation has become worse due to acute scarcity of seed. The damage caused to the crops only in the district will be worth Taka 19 crore.

Besides, the flood has caused large scale damage to kutcha dwelling houses, educational institutions .Breaches on a number embankments and dykes due to heavy onrush of water from the upperstream has also caused huge damage in many ways.

According to WDB officials, the damage caused to Surma-Kushiara Dykes has been estimated to be Taka one crore. The board officials have already informed, the high officials concerned have asked for necessary sanctions to repair the dykes and embankments.

### Three killed in Sirajganj road accident

SIRAJGANJ, Aug 16: Three people were killed when a bus hit a motorcycle on Bogra-Nagarbari highway in Ullapara , reports UNB. thana Two of the victims were

identified as Sataya, 32, and Selim, 30.

#### KHULNA, Aug 16: Police arrested a leader of outlawed Sharbahara Party from the loreports UNB.

cal bungalow area on Friday Arrested Bidyut, 35, of

Widow raped

and mother of two was allegedly gang-raped by some miscreants

in sadar thana of the district on

Wednesday night, reports UNB. Police said the victim was

sleeping with her children at

her home in Kashimpur village

in Kotwali thana when she was

violated on gun point by the

door of the house at dead of

night and raped her because she refused their indecent pro-

posal, the victim said in her

A case was lodged with the police in this connection, but

there is no report of arrest so

Sharbahara Party

leader arrested

complain to the police.

The miscreants led by Ekramul Haque broke open the

miscreants.

JESSORE, Aug 16: A widow

Natundia village in Rupsha thana, was wanted in a number of cases including a case of snatching eight rifles from the Sundarban Sea Food, a fish company.

## Alfa Tobacco engr killed

in road accident

JESSORE, Augl6: An engineer was killed and six of his colleagues were injured in a road accident at Basundia Jamtola on Jessore-Khulna high-, reports UNB.

The dead was identified as Shyamol, 32. The body was sent to Jessore General Hospital morgue for autopsy.

The injured - Rashed, 35, Kabir Hossain, 30, M Mizanur Rahman, 34, Mizanur Rahman Khan Chowdhury, 36, Mizan, 32 and Osman Ghani, 28, were also rushed to the hospital. They are the staff of Alfa Tobacco Com-

pany, Jessore. Police said the accident occurred when a Jessore-bound truck hit a microbus carrying the staff at about 9 am. A case was filed.

## Assembly of Health Deptt field workers

TANGAIL, Aug 16: A daylong assembly of the field workers of health department was held at local Bhasani Hall on Saturday, reports BSS.

The field workers of the health department of the district attended the assembly. M Amanullah, State Minis-

ter for Health, Abul Hasan Chowdhury, State Minister for -Foreign Affairs, Advocate Shamsur Rahman and Khan Shah Jahan, Joint Secretary, Bangladesh Awami League, Prof Dr A K M Nurul Anwar, Director General of Health Department attended the inaugural function

The assembly was addressed among others, by Dr A M Zakir Hossain, Dr Kazi Syed Ahmed, directors of health and Dr Md Shahidullah, Civil Surgeon, Tangail.

Lutfar Rahman, president of Field Health Workers Association presided over the function. Later on the director general of the health department held an exchange of views meeting with the doctors and consultants of Tangail District Gen-

eral Hospital. Dr Md Shahidullah, Civil Surgeon and superintendent of the hospital was in the chair.

The meetings discussed about the services of hospital and prevailing problems. The DG stressed the need for rendering maximum sympathetic and proper services towards the patients with the existing facili-

# Rural roads in bad shape in Magura, Netrakona dists

NARAYANGANJ: Sharif Tanvir Rahman of Fauzdarhat Cadet College stood fourth in the

combined merit list of Science group in this year's SSC examination held under Chittagong

Board. He secured 919 marks with distinction in seven subjects. Son of Md. Abdur

Rahman, Deputy Commissioner of Narayanganj and Ferdousi Akhtar Banu, a housewife,

Sharif wants to be a computer engineer. Reading and gardening are his pastime. In the

MAGURA, Aug 16: Thousands of people in different villages of the district have been suffering due to problems with major village roads that link hat-bazaars, schools, union welfare centres, post offices and above all thana headquarters, the local people said.

picture, he is flanked by his parents.

According to the reports, most of the important village roads which play a vital role in the villages of four thanas, Sripur, Shalikha, Muhammadpur, and sadar are Kutcha roads. There are 36 Union Parishads(UPs) in four thanas of the district. Many important kutcha roads run through the villages in the above mentioned

The main roads are Joka to Masalia mosque kutcha road, Goalpara to Langalbandh via Nabagram kutcha road. Khamarpara to Abaipur kutcha road, Gagnalia to Hazipur via Gopinathpur-Dosatina kutcha road, Baraichara Bishnupur to Fulbari kutcha road, Sripur to Magura road. The roads need to be improved on emergency ba-

Besides, many village roads of Shalikha and Muhammadpur thanas are kutcha, such or Sher Sha road of Sarsuna, Singra road need to be made pucca or semi pucca for the benefit the locality. About eight lakh people live

in the district. 70 to 75 per cent

of them dwell in about 700 vil-

lages of the district. During

British and Pakistani rule peo-

From Our Correspondent ple used water transports. Be-

cause of various problems with water transports kutcha roads were made in many areas of the district during the period of Pakistani rule. Then the people used horses and bullock carts for transporting people and

After the independence the transportation system was a bit changed. Three-wheel van, rickshaws and baby taxis are being used for transportation in the rural areas instead of animal carts. But the roads are not built for baby taxi and rickshaw. According to the sources.

hundreds of vans, rickshaws run on the kutcha roads. A group of farmers told the correspondent, they are facing serious problems to market their products due to transportation problem. They urged the concerned authorities like LGED. Roads and Highways Department to take necessary measures to build these roads. Meanwhile, some new pucca roads like Sripur-Nakol, Sripur-Langalbandh road and Nohata-Muhammadpur pucca road were built some years back. Because of communication problem people cannot get emergency medical attection in

The local leaders and people urged the government to take urgent steps for making pucca rural roads to make life of the people easier.

Our Netrakona Correspondent adds: The bus passengers travelling in different routes in the district have been suffering a lot for a long time due to bad condition of roads, wornout vehicles and non-cooperation of transport owners and workers. The passengers travelling from the district headquarter to

- Star photo

Kalmakanda, Barhatta, Mohangonj, Madan and Durgapur thanas are the worst sufferers. They travel in buses with great risk of life. According to passengers, most of the running buses are

very old. Breaks, transmission,

steering, light and horns of the buses are faulty. Some of these buses stall on the way causing serious sufferings to passengers.
These faulty buses have been running in these routes before the eyes of the district administration, but they do not take any proper step for passengers' safety. Every now and then ac-

cident occurs due to the faulty

buses. Moreover, seats are not arranged properly while the windows and roofs of the buses can not protect the passengers from rain during the rainy season. Besides, the buses do not maintain any time table and pick up passengers from anywhere causing delay in reaching the destination.

Passengers have demanded to the authority concerned to take positive measures for smooth journey.

# Satkhira Newsletter

#### Mass dacoities committed

From Our Correspondent SATKHIRA, Aug 16: Mass dacoities were committed in two villages in the sadar thana recently.

According to police sources,

a group of dacoits numbering 30 armed with deadly weapons raided the house of Paritosh Master, Subhash, Bidhan, Dilip, Abu Bakar, Shahjahan, Sudev Paramanik and Mahadev Paramanik and Tarak Sarkar, Sannyasi Sarkar, Devendra Sarkar, Naresh Sarkar, Paritosh Sarkar, Nimai Sarkar, Sumil Sarkar, Bidhan Sarkar, Lalit Sarkar, Ranjan Tarafdar and Nakul Bairvagi, all of village Rudrapur. The dacoits looted their houses one after another and at gun point took away cash and ornaments worth Taka three lakh. The dacoits beat the inmates of these houses. Later the dacoits also raided several shrimp ghers of the locality. They looted away cash and fishing materials

#### from the ghers. Girl violated

One girl was violated by one Ansar Ali 30, of village Pathorghata in the sadar thana recently.

The victim is a nine-year -old girl of the same village. Police sources said, in absence of wife, Ansar Ali, took her in his house where he raped her. Later villagers rescued her in a pool of blood from the place of occurence and caught the

rapist red- handed. A case was filed with the Sadar police station.

#### Man killed in road accident

One person was killed in a road accident near at Chandpur Madrashah on Satkhira -Kaliganj road recently.

The victim has been identi-

fied as Jahangir Alam, 20. of village Kazla in Kaligonj thana. Police sources said that the victim had been returning home from Paruliabazar in Debhata thana. When he reached the place of occurence. a Satkhira bound minibus knocked him down. He died on

A case was lodged with Debhata police station.

## Housewife killed

One housewife was killed here at Maniknagare village in Kalaroa thana recently. The victim has been identi-

fied as Marzina Khatun, 25, wife of Saidur Rahman of village Maniknagar in Kalaroa thana. Police source said, the victim was working in a paddy field near her house. Shahidul Islam

of the same village taunted her and at this a hot exchange of words took place between them. One hour after the incident, Shahidul Islam with his accomplies raided the house of Marzina.At one stage Shahidul chopped Marzina to death with a sharp weapon. A case was lodged with Kalaroa police station.

## Four commit suicide

Four persons including three housewives committed suicide by taking poison recently.