

News snaps

Death anniversary of Jamini Ranjan

RANGAMATI, Oct 10: Jhum Aesthetics Council has observed the first death anniversary of Jamini Ranjan Chakma, an eminent Tribal litterateur of the region at a function held in local Shilpakala Academy Auditorium on Friday, reports BSS. Jamini Chakma was an author of a number of books including 'Chakma Darpan' in four volumes. Manash Mukher Chakma, president of Jhum Aesthetics Council, presided over the function. Former advisor to the president on Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs Subimol Dewan, Nirmalendu Tripura, Bijoy Ketan Chakma and Jhimit Chakma, among others, discussed various aspects of the life and works of Jamini Chakma.

Cyclist killed in road accident

SATKHIRA, Oct 10: A cyclist was killed by a speeding minibus at Mitabari on Satkhira-Khulna road on Wednesday, reports BSS. Eye-witnesses said the victim Amjad Hossain, 45, of village Mitabari in Tala thana was run over by a minibus and he died on the spot.

29 bottles of phensidyl recovered

NETRAKONA, Oct 10: Netrakona CID police in a special drive recovered 29 bottles of phensidyl syrup on Thursday night from village Medni, about four kms from here, reports BSS.

CID police sources said, acting on secret information, a team of plainclothes policemen raided the spot and recovered the contraband item. A case was recorded with Netrakona Kotwali police station against a woman known as 'Pariskarer Ma' under the Narcotics Control Act.

'Rabi' farming on Rly fallow land

JOYPUHRA, Oct 10: Bangladesh Railway Western zone has undertaken a programme to cultivate 'Rabi' crops including winter vegetables on its 27 acres of fallow land of 32 rail stations under Lalmonirhat section, reports UNB.

An official of Dinajpur told that the cultivation has already been started. The similar scheme, he said, began at Pirganj, Thakurgaon, Setabganj, Birol, Sultanpur School and Mongalpur rail station areas. The process is underway for cultivation of rest of the 26 rail station areas on Panchagarh-Kurigram route, he said.

3 killed in separate incidents

NAOGAON, Oct 10: Three people, including two children, were killed in separate incidents in Niamatpur thana of the district on Sunday, reports UNB.

Witnesses said seven-year-old girl Nahida was killed in an accident on Niamatpur-Nawabganj road near Tagarail. In other incidents, Kalpana Rani, 9, of Bhimpur village was struck by thunder-bolt and Fatema, 18, of Mijlee village died from snakebite.

Boatman missing

KHULNA, Oct 10: A boatman was missing after a boat capsized in the river Pashur near Mongla port here on Friday night, reports UNB.

Navy sources said the boat, coming from Banishanta to the port, was dashed by a trawler and sank in the river with the boatman and two passengers at 8:30pm. The passengers were rescued and the boat salvaged by Navy personnel.

TLM discussion at Gazipur

GAZIPUR, Oct 10: A discussion of the Total Literacy Movement (TLM) programme, "Arunnolaj Gazipur," was held at the 'nut mondri' of the district administration building premises on Thursday, reports BSS.

The meeting organised by the district administration was presided over by Shamsul Haque, Deputy Commissioner of Gazipur, was addressed by Ahsanullah Master, MP, AKM Mozammel Haque, Chairman of Gazipur Poursashava, Azmat Ullah Khan, Chairman of Tongi Poursashava, Abdur Rashid, Chairman of Gacha Union Parishad, Borhan Uddin Master, President of District unit BNP Abdus Sattar, President of district Jatiya Party, and Prof Abdul Bari. About five lakh illiterate people will be literate under the TLM programme in 45 unions of the district.

Training course on dairy farming

NATRAKONA, Oct 10: A fortnight long training course on dairy and poultry farming and pisciculture has begun on Wednesday at Durgapur Thana Parishad Bhaban in Netrakona district, reports BSS.

Sponsored by the Youth Development Directorate the training course was inaugurated by freedom fighter and parliament member Jalaluddin Talukder. Presided over by Wazir Khan, officiating assistant director of Youth Development Directorate, Netrakona, the function was addressed, among others, by Thana Nirbahi Officer of Durgapur Mahub Alam, Thana Youth Development Officer of Durgapur Amanullah Darji and Chairman of Gaokandia Union Parishad Abdur Razzak.

Training course on management of time

MYMENSINGH, Oct 10: A two-day training course on 'management of time and taking decision' concluded at the Agricultural University here on Sunday, reports UNB.

Some 25 senior officers of the varsity including registrar, treasurer, librarian, engineer and medical officers took part in the training course, organised by the Graduate Training Institute (GTI). JTI Director Prof M Hazrat Ali presided over the certificate distributing function which was addressed, among others, by Prof Ameer Ali, Acting Registrar Nazibur Rahman and Treasurer Idris Ali. Speakers at the function said we cannot cope with the developed countries due to misuse of time. They also underscored the need for punctuality to actively contribute in country's development. Vice Chancellor of the university Dr Mohammad Hossain was present as chief guest and distributed certificates among the participants.

Academic bldg construction starts

JESSORE, Oct 10: The construction academic bhabans of seven colleges at a cost of Taka two crore seventy nine lakh in Jessore and Nadail districts has been started by the Facilities Department of Education Ministry, reports BSS.

The colleges are Chougacha, Miridha Para Women's College, Baghar Para College, Afiluddin Degree College at Sharsha, Talbaria College, M M University College and Mashihati College of Jessore district and Itna Women's College of Nadail. Sixty per cent of the total work have been completed and the rest is expected to be completed by next December. Twenty-thousand students will be benefited to study in a better environment after the construction.



NARAYANGANJ:Local MP A K M Shamim Osman inaugurating a cleanliness drive on Bangabandhu Road, a flood affected area of the district town. — Star photo

# Diarrhoea claims 38 lives so far in three dists

From Our Correspondent

FARIDPUR, Oct 10: With the recession of flood waters diarrhoea has broken out in sporadic form across the district claiming three lives, according to the local civil surgeon.

The civil surgeon said, 2,500 patients have been suffering from diarrhoea.

Besides government efforts, many non-governmental organisations have been working to prevent spread of the disease. Bangladesh Jubo Union and Chhatra Union, Faridpur district units have jointly prepared more than 6000 bags of oral saline and distributed them among the patients free of cost. They are still making saline round the clock at Faridpur Shahitya-o- Sangskriti Unnayan Sangshta office in the town.

Another report adds: Diarrhoea has broken out at Gathachara in Mainimukh union of Langadu thana in the district. A total of 2 persons died of the disease. One was identified as Nasima, 8, daughter of Kudus while the other could not be identified. A total of 20 persons have so far been attacked by the disease.

It has been learnt from the local residents, if immediate steps are not taken in time to prevent further spread of the disease, the situation will be out of control.

Meanwhile, most of the tubewells in the area are out of order and residents are drinking lake water which might be the cause of the disease.

Our Mymensingh Correspondent reports: Diarrhoea which broke out alarmingly in the district claimed 15 lives till October 5, official sources said.

Nine persons died in the district due to diarrhoea in last week. Of the total victims, 3 persons died in Gafargaon thana, 2 in Sadar, 2 in Haliaghat, 1 in Pulpur and 1 in Muktagachha.

On average, 200 people are rushing to different thana health complexes, clinics including Mymensingh Medical College Hospital (MMCH) and Surjakkanta Hospital everyday.

The rush of diarrhoeal patients were higher in the last few weeks than now.

When contacted, M Akbar

All, Civil Surgeon of Mymensingh told The Daily Star, diarrhoea is now under control as 154 medical teams comprising 82 doctors and 699 health workers are working in the affected areas including 22 temporary medical centres in the district.

The Civil Surgeon denied any report of scarcity of medicines adding, "we have a good stock of medicines."

The Civil Surgeon also said from July 1 to August 25 they distributed 3,11,000 packets of oral saline, 2,11,000 metronidazole tablets, 1,00,000 cotrim tablets and 1,79,000 tetracycline capsules.

Different organisations, including 'Muktir Lokhey' and Agricultural University, authorities have also taken up saline producing programmes. Acute scarcity of food and pure drinking water is prevailing in the flood-hit areas, especially in shoal areas of the district.

Some flood-victims of badly affected shoal areas in the sadar thana alleged, they are not getting proper treatment though they are suffering from various flood related diseases.

Patients of Pulpur and Gafargaon thanas are not getting proper medical treatment due to bad communication system which had been shattered due to floods.

However, the District Administration official sources recorded 52 deaths due to diarrhoea, drowning, snake bites, land slides and other flood related incidents.

Our Jhenidah Correspondent says: Pneumonia has broken out in the district in an epidemic form. At least 2,000 children died and over 5,000 others had been affected in six thanas of the district during the last nine months, according to the District Civil Surgeon Office.

In January this year, 29 children died and 2,133 other children were affected. In February, 40 children died and 2,942 others were affected. 21 other children died and 3,909 others were affected in March. In April 18 children died while 3,871 others were affected. 19 children died of the disease, while 2,778 were af-

ected in May. In June, 12 children died and 2,560 others were affected. In July, 12 children died and 2,638 were affected. In August, 22 children died while 436 were affected. In September, 17 children died while 3,500 others were affected in six thanas of the district.

When contacted, Dr Sardar Badar Uddin, Civil Surgeon of Jhenidah admitted the number of deaths and affected children. It is not a preventive disease like poliomyelitis, diphtheria, typhoid and other diseases. But it is a curative disease.

The Civil Surgeon informed that pneumonia breaks out due to poor sanitation and lack of proper care of the mothers, damp weather, unhealthy breast-feeding to babies and smoking in close contact of babies. The mothers are advised to feed breast to their children properly, ensure cleanliness and take special care to their babies. If any baby suffers from cold or cough are advised to send them to the local thana or district level hospitals to avoid the risk from pneumonia, the Civil Surgeon cautioned.

Our Rangamati Correspondent reports: A total of 62 persons died of malaria and diarrhoea in the last 8 months, while thousands others have been attacked in the hill district of Rangamati, said a source of Rangamati District Health Department.

In August 16 persons died of malaria, out of them 12 in Langadu and 4 in Rangamati. In the last 8 months a total of 53 persons died and 6,008 persons were attacked by malaria. Meanwhile, 9 persons died and 4,832 persons were attacked by diarrhoea.

In all thana areas of the district a strong medical team had been working, an official from the Health Department said.

UNB from Sherpur reports: Diarrhoea has broken out in the district in alarming proportion following the recession of flood waters.

Besides, some other diseases like pneumonia, dysentery and viral fever have also been reported from different areas across the district. The affected unions are Char

Pakchimari, Kamererchar, Char Sherpur, Betmari, Ghughurakandi, Rouha, Balairchar, Lasmanpur, Pathakata, Zogania, Chandrakona, Baghber, Kalashpar, Kangsha, Kurikahnia and Bhetua.

Children are being affected by pneumonia in large numbers with the recession of flood waters, local people said.

Diarrhoea is spreading fast in new areas everyday due to acute scarcity of pure water.

Subject poverty aggravated further by the unprecedented flood, the poor and destitute rural people in the affected areas have been forced to take unwholesome food.

Civil Surgeon office here admitted six diarrhoea-related deaths in the district since the beginning of the flood while the number of affected people is 4,877.

Unofficial sources, however, put the death toll just double with six more deaths in Char Pakchimari union from September 21 to 25.

Chairman of the Union Il-Iahuddin confirmed the deaths, but a source in the Civil Surgeon office said they were not aware of the report.

He said they keep statistics according to the report of the health workers in the filed level and has asked the concerned workers to submit report about the Char Pakchimari deaths.

He, however, said all possible measures have been taken to prevent the spread of diarrhoea and other diseases in the post-flood situation, adding that some 56 medical teams are working in the affected areas.

But some UP chairmen complained that the medical teams are not working properly in the affected areas.

Another report from Joypurhat adds: Viral fever has broken out in many areas of North Bengal.

The cause of the outbreak was attributed mainly to the considerable fluctuation of temperature before and after the sundown which has been reported from many districts including Rangpur, Dinajpur, Bogra and Joypurhat.

The patients complain drowsiness and pain all over the body, said the physicians.



BOGRA: Traffic jam is a regular feature at Razabazar area of Rail Crossing number 2 in the district town. — Star photo

## Abductor gets life term in Magura

From Our Correspondent

MAGURA, Oct 10: One person was sentenced to life term imprisonment and six others were acquitted for abducting a woman.

A Hai, Sessions and Senior Special Judge, Magura, delivered the judgement in absence of the convicted persons.

The prosecution story in brief is Ram Chandra Sarkar, son of Ganesh Chandra Sarkar at village Bhaduria in Madukhali thana of Faridpur district and six other persons abducted Selina Khatun, daughter of Ashraf Hossain at village Ghaziara in Sripur thana of the district on May 26, 1996 night at her residence.

## Problems photo Bogra Poursava

From A Correspondent

BOGRA, Oct 10: The problems faced by the dwellers such as traffic jam, blockage of drains, insufficient road lights, water-logging have not been solved for a long time.

A total of 224 dustbins are on record but don't exist in reality. All of the 283 tubewells are out of order through the year. All of the 383 tubewells are out of order. Mosquitoes are rampant due to hyacinth and garbage dumping. There are seven public toilets and none of them is usable. A total of 861 light bulbs are off. But the lights on Nobab Bari Road are always on. When the residents of the Poursashava are being thrown in the hardship the poursava chairman is in luxury.

## Shahar Banu wants justice

From Our Correspondent

NATORE, Oct 10: A middle-aged woman, Shahar Banu, who was inflicted grievous injuries on her right breast and tendons of the legs in a terrorist attack on Sunday, demanded trial and punishment of the culprits, reports UNB.

Speaking at a press conference here on Monday evening, the victim accused Bharat Chandra Karmakar, a contractor and local leader of Jubo League, of causing injuries to her.

Banu, wife of late Belal Hossain of North Patuapara, said she and another woman of the neighbourhood requested Bharat on Friday not to replace some bricks from a water-stagnant road. At one stage, they locked in a quarrel over the issue and Bharat dashed Banu with his motor cycle and physically assaulted her.

Angered by the assault of woman, local people surrounded Bharat and manhandled him and his workers. Later, Banu registered a General Diary (GD) with the police in connection with the assault by Bharat.

Banu said Bharat became furious following filing of the GD and attacked her on Sunday along with his armed accom-

plishes. She said they cut off part of her right breast and tendons of both legs. The attackers also threatened her against disclosing their names to the police.

She alleged that police is trying to suppress the incident in order to protect the culprits. She also alleged that certain quarters and some associates of Bharat have been threatening her not to disclose anything further.

## 4 alleged members of outlawed party arrested

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Oct 10: Four alleged members of an outlawed party were arrested Saturday night when they were preparing to commit a dacoity in the city, the Metropolitan Police said.

Two revolvers, a pipegun and four powerful hand bombs were recovered from their possession.

The arrested persons are Selim (26), Sohan (24), Sohel (30) and Roni (28), all members of Furba Banglar Communist Party, police said.



GOPALGANJ: Floods have damaged very badly the only road leading to Gopalganj town from the eastern part of the district. People have erected a makeshift bamboo bridge. They are crossing the bridge at risk. — Star photo

# Crops worth Tk 40cr damaged Scarcity of safe water, food in flood affected Noakhali

NOAKHALI, Oct 10: Standing crops on 30,000 acres of land worth about Tk 40 crore were damaged during the recent devastating floods here, reports UNB.

Following scarcity of safe water and food, people in the affected areas are forced to take adulterated food and contaminated pond water and are suffering from various diseases like diarrhoea and dropsy.

According to the government statistics, the worst affected thana is Hattia Island. Standing crops on 8,300 acres of land and a large number of dwelling houses were fully damaged by flood water as the Meghna broke the flood protection embankment of the island.

Standing crops on about 10,292 acres of land and seedbeds were partially damaged in the thana by the prolonged flood.

In Chatkhil thana, standing crops, seedbeds and transplanted Aman on 3,500 acres were fully and on 3,870 acres partially damaged by the flood.

In sadar thana, standing crops on 872 acres fully and 2,719 acres partially, in Begumganj thana 1,300 acres fully and 2,182 acres partially, in Senbag thana 440 acres fully and 1,686 acres partially and in Compagnyganj thana 350 acres fully and 1,440 acres partially damaged.

Agriculture rehabilitation is yet to be started in the flood af-

ected thanas. Meanwhile, about 10,400 flood-hit people from 33 flood shelters in Chatkhil thana started returning to their homes.

Government statistics revealed, about 1,97,766 people of 31,171 families of the thana were affected by flood. Almost all the villages of nine unions of the thana were affected.

Government relief materials are inadequate and most of the day labourers are passing their days without food.

Local leaders urged the government to start test relief and food for work programmes immediately in the affected areas to save the poor people.

## Crisis of house building materials in Gaibandha

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, Oct 10: An acute crisis of construction materials has been prevailing in the flood affected district now.

In village areas the main construction materials are bamboo, 'Kash' straw and jute-stick which is now very dear in the markets. This time consecutive deluges have damaged almost all the dwelling houses in the affected areas. The houses went under water for a long time. As such maximum number of huts raged to the ground and damaged completely. The remaining huts sustained partial damages.

So, the flood victims will have to re-build their dwelling huts. But acute crisis of bamboo

and other house building materials has caused price-hike. This is beyond the reach of the ill-fated people. With a view to making multiple profit some unscrupulous traders have been bringing the items from distant places and are selling those at exorbitant price. Poor people cannot afford to collect those costly house building materials.

The affected people should get financial help from government or non-government organisations so that they can reconstruct their flood ravaged houses.

Another report says: The government allocated fresh 85,000 VGF cards for the flood affected people of Gaibandha

district under the post-flood rehabilitation programme.

A total 82 unions will receive one thousand cards each and three thousand cards have been allocated for Gaibandha Poursava.

The card holder will get 8 kg rice and 8 kg wheat every month. The government allotted 1,360 metric tons of foodgrains to implement the programme. The programme is expected to be continued till December this year.

It may be mentioned here, earlier the government sanctioned a total 23,300 VGF cards which was distributed among the destitutes of flood affected areas.

## One dies after eating potka fish

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Oct 10: One person of a family died and three others fell sick after eating poisonous potka fish at Bakerganj thana headquarters.

According to local sources, Rustam Ali, 45, a day labourer, bought some potka fish and had it with other members of his family in the dinner.

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Ministry of Education  
Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka

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### NOTICE

**Subject : Invitation of applications for Commonwealth Scholarships**

Applications are invited from Bangladeshi nationals for study under following Commonwealth Scholarships:

Name of scholarship	Level of study	Number of offers
a) Commonwealth United Kingdom-1999	Master's degree/medicine and dentistry-1 year training	6
b) Commonwealth United Kingdom-1999	Doctoral or equivalent degree	24
c) Commonwealth Canada-1999-2000	Master's/equivalent degree	7
d) Commonwealth Canada-1999-2000	Doctoral or equivalent degree	7

- Application will remain open for all subjects. It can be applied either for Master's or doctoral. Applicant at any level will have to mention if he wants to be considered one of the countries between United Kingdom or Canada or for both the countries. One candidate can apply only for one subject. He will apply only for that subject on which course he has studied last. If there does not exist any scope of study in the subject applied for in Bangladesh the candidate passed in other related subject can also apply.
- For application in any level the candidate should have no third division in academic life. Candidates for the subjects of arts/humanities and commerce and environment science, computer science and forestry should have at least 3 first divisions including Master's and for the candidates of science department should have first division in all examinations from SSC to Master's degree. Candidates for 4-year Bachelor degree (engineering, agriculture etc) should have first division from SSC to Bachelor degree and for medicine they should have secured 60% marks in all parts of MBBS/BDS examination with first division.
- Application as per following table (will have to be translated done) in English of 8 (eight) copies will have to be sent to Secretary, University Grants Commission, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka, within 30/10/98. Name of scholarship, level of study will have to be mentioned on envelope. Attested copies of certificates and marksheet of examinations passed and 1 copy of passport size attested photograph will have to be sent with application. Attested copies of marksheets of TOEFL, IELTS, GMAT, GRE etc examination will have to be given, if passed. Besides an envelope with self-address and stamp will have to be sent with application.
- The table for application will be as follows:

APPLICATION FOR COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIP				
Name of scholarship	Commonwealth Scholarship United Kingdom-1999	Commonwealth Scholarship Canada 1999-2000		
Level of study	Master Degree	Doctoral		
Subject of study	(Put a tick (✓) mark in place of applicability and write subject of study)			
a) Name of candidate				
b) Father's name				
c) Present address (including telegraph office and if there is telephone)				
d) Permanent address				
e) Date of birth and age on 1-10-98				
f) For candidates in service the present designation and name of organisation with date of joining				
g) Description of any other scholarship for which selected preliminary/finally				
h) Results of all examinations				
Name of examination	Branch/subject	Year of passing	Division got and marks	
			Division got	Total marks in examination
			Total marks obtained	Percentage
SSC				
HSC				
Bachelor				
Masters				
Other relevant examination				
i) Score with date of passing TOEFL/GRE/IELTS/GMAT, if appeared				
j) For candidates of PhD description of publication in recognised journal (if there is)				
Name and subject of article	Name of journal and description	Number of words	Description of degree/diploma/ certificate if attained on basis of publication	
	Local/foreign/international, publication place etc)			

**Full signature of candidate with date**

- Application will have to be submitted in type in a 'full scap' paper (above table filled in). Different paper can be attached if the description of publication cannot be accommodated in the page.
- Age of candidate should be maximum 35 years (candidates in service will have to submit application through proper channel).
- Candidates who have got grade instead of marks in examination, they will have to turn grade into number and calculation will have shown in support of it in different paper and attested copy of certification in this regard will have to be submitted. Otherwise, it will not be brought under consideration. Candidates for medicine will have to show the year of passing of each part of MBBS and BDS and marks obtained and total and average marks will have to be mentioned in original application. Certificate in support of publication will have to be submitted and copies of publication will have to be kept by the candidate. After informing the candidate in preliminary stage through letters it will have to be submitted instantly.
- Incomplete application will be regarded as rejected.

DFF-21300-7/10  
G-2267

**Md Manjurur Rahman**  
Senior Assistant Secretary  
Phone: 865032