'Rabi' farming in Narsingdi dist

NARSINGDI, Nov 1: About 63,754 hectares of land have been brought under 'Rabi' crops cultivation in six thanas of Nars-

ingdi district during current season, reports BSS. According to Agriculture Extension Department sources, 42,354 hectares have been brought under 'Boro' cultivation, 600 hectares under wheat, 1800 hectares under potato, 4,900 hectares under mustard seeds, 1500 hectares under sweet potato, 505 hectares under maize, 4800 hectares under vegetables, 500 hectares under ground nut. 350 hectares under pappers, 3725 hectares under various kinds of pulse and 720 hectares under various kinds of spices cultivation.

Natural Disaster Mitigation Day observed

MADARIPUR. Nov 1: International Natural Disaster Mitigation Day was observed here recently in a befitting manner, reports BSS.

A seminar on "natural disaster mitigation and mass media" was held at the conference room of the deputy commissioner to mark the day. The seminar, presided over by deputy commis-sioner Farhad Rahman, was addressed, among others, by additional deputy commissioner (general) Saidul Huq Bhuiyan, district relief officer Abdur Rahim and Kazi Musharaf Hossain. The speakers underscored the need for concerted efforts by all to minimise the natural disasters that cause collossal damage to national economy, human life and property.

Jaundice spreading alarmingly

KISHOREGANJ, Nov. 1: Jaundice, a disease caused by an excess of bile pigment which makes eyes and skins yellow has been spreading in an alarming proportion in the district affecting at least 5,000 people in last one month, reports UNB.

The worst affected thanas are Mithamoin, Itna, Nikli, Asta-

gram, Tarail, Bhairab, Bajitpur and Sadar thanas. Doctors said the symptoms of the jaundice are yellowish urine, eyes and skins with a vomiting tendency. They also said there is no need to take any medicine excepting complete rest and proper diets. Local quacks and homeopaths are giving treatment to the patients suffering from jaundice since the outbreak of the disease in the flood-hit areas.

Housewife beaten to death

NOAKHALI, Nov 1: A teenaged housewife was beaten to death allegedly by her husband in village Char Jagabandhu, Ramgati on Wednesday night as her family failed to give the dowry agreed before the marriage, reports UNB.

Police said Bashir Ahmed, 25, kicked in the abdomen of her wife Parul Begum, 18, to death on the spot following an altercation over outstanding dowry of Tk 5,000. Her family had settled the dowry at Tk 10,000 and paid Tk 5,000 at the time of the marriage last year. Rest of the amount remained unpaid for which Bashir has been pressing Parul, daughter of Abdul Hakim of the same village. Local people caught Bashir when he was trying to conceal the body and handed over to police. The body was sent to Noakhali Sadar Hospital for autopsy.

Flood damages 1,487 educational instts

COMILLA, Nov 1: At least 1,487 educational institutions have been damaged in 12 thanas of the district in the recent devastating flood, reports UNB

The damage is worth about Tk 10 crore, said an official source referring to an preliminary estimate. The damaged institutions include nine colleges, 213 high schools, 162 madrasas, 762 government primary schools, 237 registered non-government primary schools and 104 other primary level schools. The students of the damaged institutions have been suffering seriously and their study is being hampered, said the sources. The authorities have formed committee at the thana levels to estimate the extent of damage in order to sanction fund for the repair work.

Loan for distressed women

COMILLA, Nov 1: Comilla Pourasava distributed Taka one lakh forty thousand as loan among the distressed women to create employment opportunity under the slum development project at Garjankhola on October 25, reports BSS.

Pourasava chairman Kamal Uddin Chowdhury distributed the loan. Among others, executive engineer Mir Rezaul Karim and poura commissioner Jahangir Alam spoke in the loan distribution function.

Wheat allocated for FWP

RANGPUR, Nov 1: A total 994 tonnes of wheat has been allocated for implementation of 723 projects under Food for Work Programme (FWP) in Rangpur district in the current dry season, reports BSS.

According to an official source, the projects included repair and renovation of different roads and roads-cum-embankments and earth work in different educational and religious institutions. The programme has created job opportunities to the rural poor. Over 20 per cent projects have already been implemented.

Discussion on awareness of environment TANGAIL, Nov 1: Compartmentalization pilot project, Tan-

gail held a discussion meeting on the awareness of environment on Tuesday at Atiakumaria Madrasha campus, reports BSS. Eminent botanist Dr Syed Hadiuzzaman was the main

speaker. Retired police officer Abu Taher presided over the function. Among others, Dr Moniruzzaman Khondker, Dr Md Kamruzzaman, Lutfar Rahman, Ashok Kumar Das and Nasima Sultana spoke on the role of plantation and cleanliness for maintaining healthy environment.

Fire at R &H Deptt office

RANGAMATI, Nov 1: A devastating fire broke out at the office of Roads and Highways Division at Bandarban town on Thursday night, reports BSS

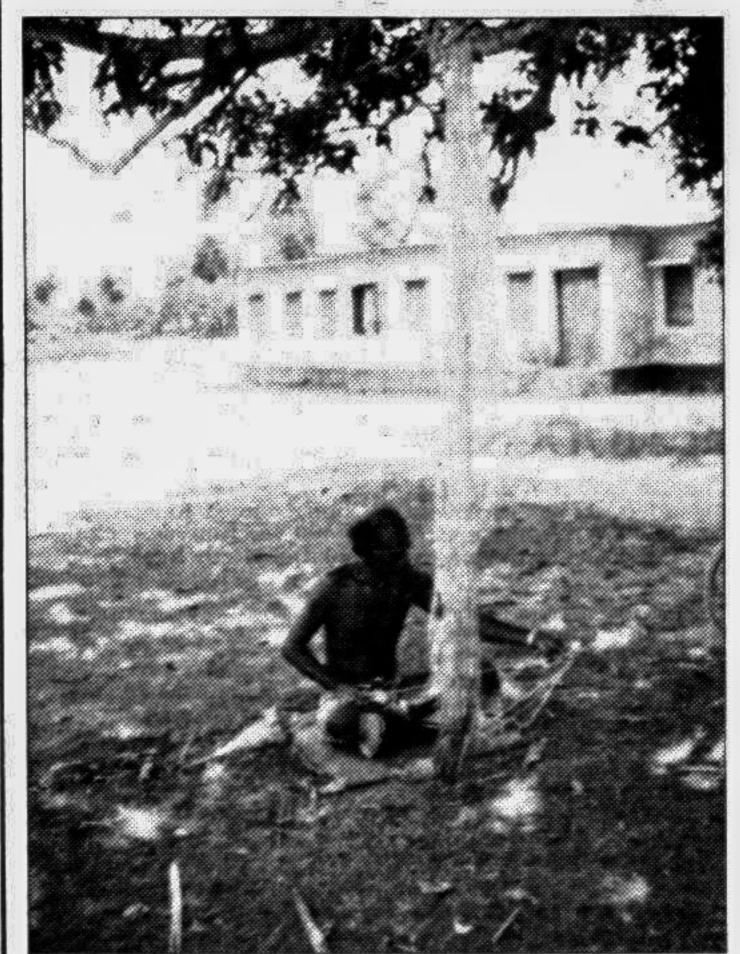
The fire originated from electric short circuit. Executive Engineer of Bandarban Roads and Highways Division Abul Kashem. available here, told that fire gutted the documents and papers. Chairman of Bandarban Hill District Local Government Council, TS Prue Master visited the fire devastated office to see the extent of damage.

Robber gets 5-years' imprisonment

JESSORE, Nov 1: A court here sentenced a man to five years imprisonment and fined Tk 5,000, in default, to suffer more six

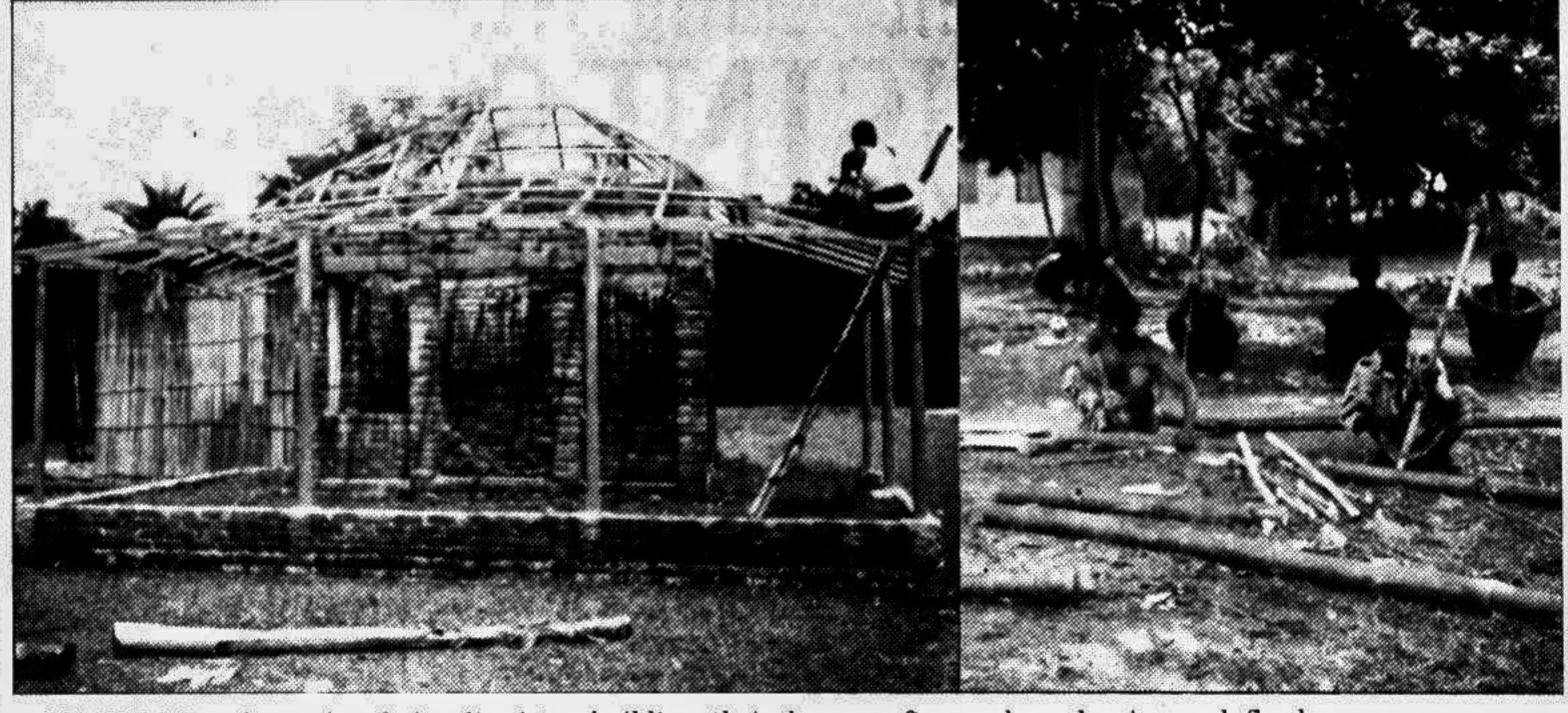
months, on charge of robbery, reports UNB.

The prosecution, in brief, was that Iraque Ali of Kayemkhola village in Avoynagr thana lodged a robbery case with the police station on September 15, 1995 accusing Ameer Ali, son of Shaheb Ali at Malthurapur of the same thana. After examining records and witnesses, the Additional District Magistrate Mohammad Nurul Haque awarded the punishment on Sunday.



MAGURA: Rope is largely used in the rural areas for house building purpose. After the deluge it is in great demand in the district The price is also higher now.Photo shows a villager is engaged in making rope in a traditional way

- Star photo by Monojit Kumar Das



MAGURA: Rural people of the district rebuilding their houses after prolonged rains and floods.

- Star photo

Bajitpur municipal area plagued with problems

KISHOREGANJ, Nov 1: The Bajitpur municipal area here is plagued with manifold problems causing untold suffering to the dwellers, reports UNB.

The problems included deplorable condition of roads, absence of drainage system, inadequate street light, shortage of accommodation, lack of sanitary arrangement, frequent power failure, mosquito menace and absence of recreational facilities in the area.

The roads are narrow and uneven and cracks and potholes have developed at many points causing suffering to the pedestrians. The roads become muddy and slippery after a slight rainfall.

The roadside ditches are filled with filth and garbage which are not cleaned for months. These have become the ideal breeding centres of

mosquitoes. Frequent power failure and fluctuation of voltage are regular features here. The town plunge into darkness owing to

power failure for hours together

after sundown. The fish and vegetables markets are also in deplorable condition causing much suffering to both the buyers and sellers. There are no public latrines in the town. The number of floating people is also increasing day by day.

The hotels and restaurants of the town are causing health hazards as adulterated foodstuffs are being prepared and sold openly.

The local people urged the authority concerned to take immediate steps to mitigate their sufferings.

Historical relics mouldering away in northern dists

ISWARDI, Nov 1: Objects of historical importance and antiques in northern districts are mouldering away or being destroyed for lack of upkeep, reports APB.

All these riches make up the nation's history and heritage dating back to ancient civilisations, monarchies and colonial rule as well as ballads of people's glorious struggles for emancipation over the ages.

Concerned sources said the Anthropological Department was yet to take over many of the historical sites and relics in the country's 16 northern districts. Even those that have been taken over by the department are not being maintained properly, they alleged.

Jore Bangla, Jubilee Tank, Tantibandh Zamindar Bari, Shitlai Bhaban, Sujanagar Chowdhury Bari and Chatmohar Shahi Mosque in greater Pabna are yet to be take over by the appropriate authorities.

The houses of Pramath Chowdhury at Haripur and Azim Chowdhury at Dulai, Ja-

FARIDPUR, Nov 1: A total of

83,200 Vulnerable Group Feed-

ing (VGF) cards have been issued

for distribution among the vul-

nerable groups in 79 unions of

eight thanas and two

pourasavas of the dis-

trict, according to the District

Relief and Rehabilitation Office

(DRRO). Each card holder will

receive eight kgs of rice and

eight kgs of wheat every month.

though the VGF cards have

reached the thana head quar-

ters and two pourasava offices.

they were not fully distributed

among the recepients. So the

question of lifting rice and

wheat by the card holders does

correspondent that many more

cards may be issued in view of

the magnitude of devastation

caused by floods and the quan-

each card may be doubled.

tity of rice and wheat against

groups and distribution of rice

and wheat will be made through

a strong committee comprising

union parishad chairman.

members, members of NGOs

that 1,000 VGF cards have been

issued for each of the 79 unions

and 2,100 cards for each of the

accelarate the speed of distribu-

tion of VGF cards among the

most deserving people so that

they may get rice and wheat al-

lotted against each card at an

earliest possible time considering the pitiable condition they

Our Jhenidah Correspondent

reports: A total of 29 thousand

100 Vulnerable Group Feeding

(VGF) cards were sanctioned for six thanas and five

pourasabhas of the district by

the district administration, ac-

cording to district administra-

among the distressed families.

Each VGF card holder will be

provided with 16 kilograms of

foodgrains every month as per

government decision. Thana-

wise break-up of the cards were

6,100 families in Jhenidah

sadar thana, 5,400 families in

Sailkupa thana, 3,400 families

in Harinakundu thana. 4,100

families in Kaliganj thana, 1,900 families in Kotchandpur

thana and 4,600 families in Mohespur thana of the district.

Further, another 900 cards were

issued for the distressed fami-

BCL factions in

Jamalpur clash,

college closed

buddin Degree College in Kali-

ganj thana was closed following

a clash between two factions of

pro-Awami League Chhatra

League on Tuesday, reports UNB.

began at about 11 am when po-

lice tried to disperse the sup-porters of two rival BCL leaders

- Titu and Litu - who took po-

sition on the campus to attack

in an emergency meeting closed

the college for three days to avoid further trouble.

Later, the college authorities

each other.

Witnesses said the trouble

JAMALPUR, Nov 1: Mahta-

These cards will be issued

are living in.

tion office sources.

Measures should be taken to

two pourasavas of the district.

It may be mentioned here

and dignitaries of the locality.

The selection of vulnerable

The DRRO further told this

not arise at all.

The DRRO also said that

gannath Temple, Samajshahi Mosque, Atgharia Beruan Mosque, Bharara Mosque, houses of film actress and actor Suchitra Sen and Pradip Kumar, Faridpur Natya Mandir, Jora Mandir of Bithulia, Naogaon Shahi Mosque of Tarash and Shah Makhdoum Mosque at Shahjadpur in the greater

Historic Tarash Bhaban in Pabna town, now being used as collectorate building, still bears the memories of the zemindar of Tarash.

district also elude the list.

Many of its doors and windowpanes have broken and the ornamented a sections become quite dilapidated due to neglect of maintenance, sources informed.

A proposal was submitted to the government for turning this building into a museum of the War of Independence by the former Deputy Commissioner of the district. Ashiqul Haq Chowdhury, but it was shelved, they said.

The Royal Palaces of Puthia

83,200 VGF cards for eight

thanas of Faridpur

From Our Correspondent

lies of Jhenidah poura area, 600

cards for Sailkupa poura areas,

900 cards for Kaliganj poura ar-

eas, 600 cards for Kotchandpur

poura area and 600 cards for the

distressed families of Mohespur

chairmen told this correspon-

dent that they had been facing

troubles to print the cards for

the distressed families as gov-

ernment had sanctioned only

Taka between 50 and 100 for

card printing and carrying of

one metric ton foodgrains for

the distressed families. But it

would cost at least Taka 250 for

each metric ton of foodgrains.

Whe contacted, the local administration said that they could

not change the rate as it was fi-

total of 13,800 VGF cards have

been distributed among the

flood affected people of the dis-

sources, 30,300 more VGF cards

will be distributed during the

tributed in 42 flood affected

unions and municipal areas in

five thanas under the post-flood

metric tons of rice and wheat

have already been distributed

among the affected people dur-

union and 1800 for each pou-

Some 300 VGF cards for each

Official sources said 220.80

rehabilitation programme.

ing last two months.

trict during last two months.

A report from Feni adds: A

Besides, according to official

The VGF cards have been dis-

Some union parishad

poura area.

nalised earlier.

current month.

and Natore, have, however, been taken over by the department of Archaeology. But, 17 temples and Palace buildings of Puthia, adorned with terracotta, however, are yet to be repaired.

"As a result, parts of these historic setups are withering away or being stolen," said one official.

The sources also said the two-storied Hawakhana erected inside the pond of the zemindars of Tarapur near Puthia is getting damaged. During the British Raj, it was the melting pot for the revolutionaries of Swadeshi Movement.

Sources further said the Sona Majid in Shibganj and mausoleum of Shah Neamatullah in Godagari thana in greater Rajshahi district have developed cracks. The walls have already lost their original coatings.

A number of historic big and small mosques around the Sona Masjid are also crumbling for an unmerited lack of care and attention, they told.

in 42 unions and each VGF card

holder is receiving eight kg of

rice and another eight kg of

The Union Parishad and the

Municipal authorities have

been entrusted with the respon-

sibility of preparing the lists of

the distressed people. It is ex-

pected that the list will be com-

pleted within the next seven

cash, 375.50 metric tons of rice,

5.198 pieces of saree, 1200

pieces of lungi, 200 tins of bis-

cuits, 1500 pieces of old clothes

and 150 pieces of soaps have al-

ready been distributed till Octo-

ber 10 under the post-flood re-

habilitation programme of the

Jhalakati says: Six people in-

cluding a UP chairman here

have been charged with misap-

propriation of VGF rice and

case against Bhairabpasha UP

chairman AKM Abdul Haque.

three UP members, its secretary

and a local of the area on

alised Tk 10 from each VGF

card holder and distributed 15

kg foodgrains instead allocated

16 kg among them on October

directive of the district admin-

istration following publication

of reports on corruption.

The TNO filed the case at the

The accused reportedly re-

The Nalchhiti TNO filed a

Another APB report from

government in the district.

Meanwhile, Tk 8.50 lakh in

wheat under the programme.

The palace of Raja Bijoy Sen and a temple at Deopara in Godagari thana, some 7 km off Rajshahi city, is getting ruined

Although the establishments were taken over by the Archeological Department, the temple got vanished save a pond in derelict condition in the compound. The relics of the Rajbari are also about to van-

Also in Godagari, the fort built by Nawab Alibardi Khan at the confluence of the Padma and the Mahananda crumbled into ruins a decade ago.

The historic Pundrabardhan city continues to be neglected. although a museum has been built at Mahasthangarh in Bogra district.

Similarly, the Ghoraghat Fort, Chehelgazir Mazar and Rajbari in Dinajpur district are going to the dogs.

Last but not the least, many of rare collections of the Chalan Beel Museum are also getting damaged being deprived of care.

Diarrhoea claims 50 lives in Mymensingh

From Our Correspondent MYMENSINGH, Nov 1: Diarrhoea has claimed nine lives and attacked over 100 in Dubaura thana during the last week. The disease has been spreading alarmingly.

The deads have been identified as Hazral Ali, 70, of village Kasinpara, Babur Ali of village Purba Batirhala, Taslima, 7, of village Ranasinhpur, Jabed Miah, 50, and Nuruzzaman, 6, of village Goshgoan, Gulesa, 30, of village Bogjour, Subash Raj Bal. 10, of village Voua Para, Aklima,6, of village Dubaura and eight months old Sourab of

village Sohali. But according to the Civil Surgeon office sources, at total of 15 persons died of diarrhoea till the first week of october.

Though the Civil Surgeon office claimed that diarrhoea is under control, but according to unofficial sources, it is spreading alarmingly in the flood-hit rural areas.

According to unofficial sources, the death toll in diarrhoea is nearly 50 which is much more than the official figure.

From Our Correspondent MAGURA, Nov 1 : Five-day long Kattyayani puja, a religious festival of the Hindu community was celebrated in five temples of the district town and its adjoining areas of Nijnaduali and Dari Magura Para from October 26 to 30 with due

On the eve of the festival a big fair was arranged. Different types of commodities like fur-Dr Ms Akbar and Advocate visied all the puja temples. The district administration and law enforcing agencies took proper der. People of Magura and the surrounding localities enjoyed

Manikganj road accident

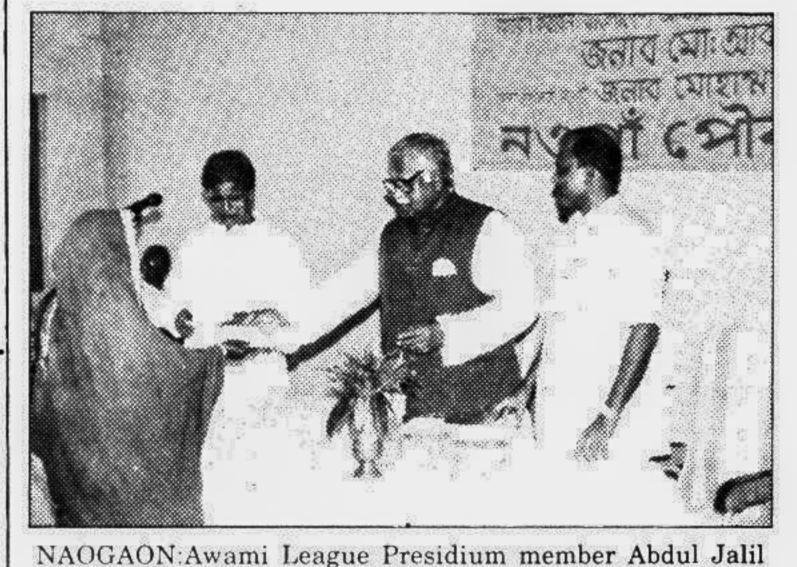
From Our Correspondent MANIKGANJ, Nov 1 : At least 50 people were injured, ten of them seriously, when a night coach fell into a road side ditch after collision with a truck on Dhaka-Aricha highway near

The bus was going to Dhaka from Rajbari. Of the injured, eight were sent to Pangu Hospi-tal in Dhaka while the eight others were admitted to

their drivers managed to es-



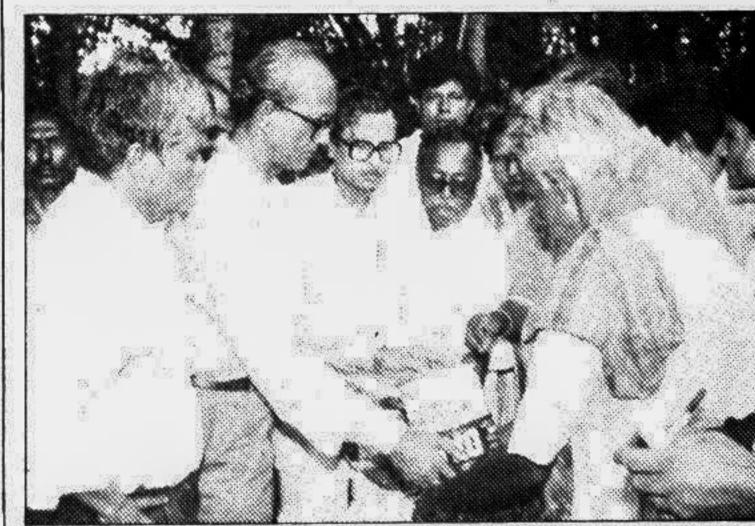
Governmental Organisation(NGO) recently distributed relief goods among the flood victims at Kasherhat in Muladi thana. - Star photo



recently distributed VGF cards among the flood victims at Naogaon Pourasava.Poura chairman Akhter Ahmed Siddiqui and Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Ali were === - Star photo present.



Akbar Sobhan Shah FARIDPUR:(L-R)Ahmed Alam, Chairman, Bashundhara group of companies presenting a cheque of Taka 80,000 to Chowdhury Sabbir Yusuf, Vice-President, Faridpur district unit of National Heart Foundation with a view to purchasing ECG machine. The local unit secretary Prof M A Samad is also - Star photo



SYLHET: Nurul Islam Nahid MP, distributing relief materials among the flood victims in Golapganj thana. - Star photo



RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY: Vice-Chancellor Prof Abdul Khaleque addressing at a day long seminar titled:" Entrepreneurship Development in the Changing Econmic Reforms in Bangladesh" arranged jointly by the Business Studies Faculty and ICMA,B of Dhaka.Pro Vice-Chancellor Prof Sayeedur Rahman Khan(2nd from left) is - Star photo. also seen.

rashava have been distributed Seven criminals get life-term in Jhenidah

wheat.

Wednesday.

JHENIDAH, Nov 1: A court here on Thursday sentenced seven people to life imprisonment and fined them Tk 50,000 each, in default, to suffer two years more RI in a bus dacoity case, reports UNB.

The convicts are Rabi, Dulal, Selim, Tipu, Soleman, Abul and

After examining the records and witnesses Additional District and Sessions Judge Abdur Razzak awarded the punish-In another case, a man was

sentenced to life imprisonment

by District and Sessions Judge on Wednesday for raping a teenage girl. Judge Khademul Islam Belal also fined the convict — Abu Bakar - Tk 10,000, in default.

to suffer one-year more rigorous imprisonment. The prosecution, in brief, was that Abu Bakar and his accomplices kidnapped the girl, 16, from a bus and took her to a house of Abdul Hamid of

Dhipadi village in Kaliganj thana and raped her. Later, police recovered the girl from the house and after investigation submitted charge-

the punishment acquitting oth-

sheet against the convict and his accomplices. After examining the records and witness, the Judge awarded

Comilia adds: Assistant District and Sessions Judge M Fakhruddin on Wednesday sentenced three people, in absentia, to seven-year RI on charge of violating a teenage

Another report from

The convicts are Abdul Karim and his brother Khalilur Rahman and Hossen Ali of Bolipadua village in Laksam

According to the prosecu-tion, the convicts abducted the girl, 14, on August 30, 1991 and raped her confining to different places in Laksham and Kachua thanas.

by them. But fortunately, an Indian woman recovered her from a place and sent her to her sister at Tungipara village in Sadar In another case, the same

Later, she was sent to India

Judge recently convicted a couple and sentenced them, in absentia, to life imprisonment for possessing illegal firearms. The convicts are Abul Kashem alias Kala Mia and his

wife Sufia Khatun of Ekbalia village in Sadar thana. Police raided the house of the couple and recovered four

revolvers, three rounds of bullets and a big knife from their possession.

An enjoyable fair in Magura after flood

religious fervour and festivity.

Thousands of people of all ages of Magura and adjoining districts of Jessore, Faridpur, Jhenidah and Kushtia visited colourful and well-illuminated puja pandels. Magura town and its adjoining areas wore a festive look.

niture, handicraft, toys, sweet meats were avaiable in the fair. Birey Sikdar MPs of Magura measures to main law and orthe puja and the fair alike after prolonged rains and floods.

50 injured in

Muljan crossing on Saturday

Manikganj sadar hospital.
Police seized the vehicles but

cape. A case was filed with Manikganj sadar thana in this connection.