

News snaps

AL leader buried

From Our Correspondent

CHUADANGA, Nov 4: Local Awami League leader Ashabul Hoque Asha was laid to rest at the graveyard adjacent to local Baitul Moula mosque on October 30.
Earlier his namaz-e-janja was held at the local town football ground. Hundreds participated in the janaza. Asha, Joint Secretary of Chuadanga district Awami League succumbed to his bullet injuries at Bangabandhu Medical University on October 28 night.

Indian sugar seized

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, Nov 4: Local people recently caught re-handled 14 bags of Indian sugar which was smuggled from the border belt near traffic point of the district town.
When 14 bags of sugar were being unloaded at the godown of Waheduzzaman Mandol near number one traffic, local people on suspicion challenged the persons who were unloading the goods. Then they informed the matter to magistrate Atiqul Haq who rushed to the spot and sealed the godown. Later police seized the smuggled sugar.

Four Indian nationals arrested

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, Nov 4: Four Indian nationals were arrested recently by BDR jawans of Satkhira from Bhomra bordering area in the sadar thana.
The arrested were identified as Milan Das, Anjan Das, Chandra Singh and Satya Mondal, all of village Hasnabad in the district of 24 Parganas in West Bengal. India BDR sources said, the arrested persons came here illegally crossing the border.

Dead body recovered

From Our Correspondent

GOPALGANJ Nov 4: Maksudpur thana police recently recovered a dead body of Kamal Kanti Kirtania, 50, of village Goalgram.
According to Maksudpur thana police sources, Kamal Kanti Kirtania went to Ramda Bazar in Kasiani thana from his house at Goalgram village for buying wood. He remained missing since then. Local people of Bilkandha village saw a dead body in a roadside ditch and informed the matter to Maksudpur Police. The police recovered the dead body which the victim's family identified.

Freshers' reception and farewell ceremony

From Our Correspondent

MYMENSINGH, Nov 4: A freshers' reception and farewell ceremony was arranged recently by the Students Association of Agricultural Engineering and Technology Faculty of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) at the faculty building.

Presided over by Prof M Shahidullah Talukder, Dean of the faculty and President of the Association, the function was attended by prof Muhammed Hussain, Vice-Chancellor of the university as the chief guest. It was addressed, among others, by former Vice-Chancellor Shah Muhammad Farouk, Advisor of the Association, Prof M Shahidul Hoque and Treasurer Dr M Manjurul Hoque.

Another dead body recovered

From Our Correspondent

KUSHTIA, Nov 4: The dead body of Robedul, 16, son of Badal Hossain of Mondolpara of Area union in Daulatpur thana was recovered recently from a field.
Asadul, brother-in-law of Robedul took him from his house. Police arrested four persons in this connection. They are Siddique, Rafiqul, Rabiul and Laskar. But Asadul has been absconding. Police sent the body to Kushtia General Hospital for autopsy.

Lightning claims one life

From Our Correspondent

BRAHMANBARIA, Nov 4: Lightning claimed the life of one life and injured two others recently at South Jagotsar in the sadar thana.
According to hospital sources, Saifulah, 25, was killed and Abul Hussain, 25, Abu Nayem, 28, were injured by lightning at village Jagotsar. The injured persons were given first aid at Brahmanbaria Sadar Hospital.

Housewife killed in road accident

From Our Correspondent

MAGURA, Nov 4: A housewife was killed recently in a road accident at Sheikhpara on Magura-Jessore highway in Shalika thana, witnesses and family sources said.
Shilpi Khatun, 25, was run over by a speeding Magura bound bus when she was crossing the highway with a child. She died on the spot. The killer bus fled away.

Govt of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Executive Engineer

B'baria PWD, Division, B'baria
Phone No 52362

Corrigendum Notice

1. Tender Notice No: EE, B'baria-34 of 1998-99.
2. Memo No: 1676, dated 7.10.1998.
3. Last date of selling : 16.11.1998 up to 5.00 PM instead of 2.11.1998.
4. Tender receiving date: 17.11.1998 up to 1.00 PM instead of 3.11.1998.
5. Date of lottery: 2.12.1998 at 11.00 AM instead of 12.11.1998.
6. This corrigendum notice will be a part and parcel of this tender.
7. All other terms and conditions of tender will be remain unchanged.

AKM Fazlul Kader
Executive Engineer
B'baria PWD Division, B'baria.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Social Welfare Directorate

District Social Welfare Office
1/D, Katalganj, Chittagong

Tender Notice

Memo No DSWO/Ctg/1094/98 Dated: 28.10.98

Sealed tenders are invited from bonafide contractors and suppliers for supply of food and food allied items, clothes, furniture and miscellaneous goods for the inmates of Government Shishu Sadan, Nasirabad Housing Society, Road No-3, Chittagong and Government Shishu Paribar, Hathazari, Chittagong for 6 (six) months from 1-1-99 to 30-6-99 and different repair work.

Schedule and terms and conditions for tender can be obtained till 17.11.98 on all working days from 11 AM to 4 PM from Additional Deputy Commissioner (General), Chittagong, Deputy Director, District Social Welfare Office, Chittagong and office of the concerned establishments on payment of Taka 400/- (four hundred taka) in cash (non-refundable). Tenders will be received in the tender boxes kept at the said offices till 11 AM on 18.11.98 and will be opened on the same day at 12.00 Noon before the tenderers (if anyone remains present) in the office of the Additional Deputy Commissioner (General), Chittagong.

It is mentionable here that original copies of different certificates related to contractorship like trade licence, bank solvency certificate, certificate of experience in supplying food and other goods (up-to-date) and character certificate, income tax certificate (1998-99) before purchasing tender schedule with terms and conditions and attested photocopies of certificates will have to be deposited with tender. No schedule of any kind, terms and conditions will be supplied on the day of tender.

Tender committee reserves power to accept or reject any tender.
M A Awal
Deputy Director
District Social Welfare Office
Chittagong.
DFP-23138-1/11/98
G-2472

Severe pest-attack on 'Aman' fields in Mymensingh

From Aminul Islam

MYMENSINGH, Nov 4: Severe pest-attack on a vast tract of 'Aman' fields in all 12 thanas has created great panic among the flood-stricken farmers.

According to farmers, over 26,000 hectares of transplanted 'Aman' paddy field have been attacked by various pests locally known as 'pamri' and 'majra' including various grasshoppers. The pests are damaging 'Aman' plants very fast.

The affected thanas are sadar, Muktagachha, Phulbaria, Trishal, Bhaluka, Gafargaoon, Phulpur, Nandail, Iswarganj, Dubaura, Haluaghat and Gouripur.

Badly affected thanas are sadar, Trishal, Bhaluka and Phulpur.

The insects first attack the root of the plant and suck all the juice from the plants making the crop field barren.

According to an official of the local Agriculture Extension Department (AED), the total pest attacked land could not be measured so far. The AED has been trying their best to face the situation at the earliest, said the official. But the growers said, the pest-attacked lands have been increasing very fast in the worst flood-hit areas especially in the low lying areas.

AED is motivating the farmers by providing trainings, holding discussions and visiting the affected areas under its Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programme to check the menace.

AED official sources also said that the department had taken various steps to make IPM programme popular among the farmers.

AED officials also informed that with a view to providing practical training on IPM among the farmers, the department established five Farmers' Field Schools (FFS) during 'Boro' season in Iswarganj thana and two FFS in each of Iswarganj, sadar, Gouripur and Phulpur thanas for the current transplanted 'Aman' season. The farmers have been advised to use pesticides on their lands and other natural methods under IPM to eradicate the pest-attack.

While visiting some areas in sadar thana some farmers told The Daily Star correspondent that the lands which had been transplanted after the flood have been attacked severely by various pests.

Abul Monsur, a farmer of Char Bhobani village told that he transplanted 1.5 acres of land after flood which have been attacked by pests totally. But he could not meet any Block Supervisor (BS) to consult about the menace. Md Nurul Hoque, a farmer of the same village also said in the same tone. If the pest-attack could not be brought under control, the production target would be down, feared some farmers of shoal areas.

However, on learning the news of severe pest-attack, Minister for Food and Agriculture, Begum Motia Chowdhury visited several villages adjacent to Dhaka-Mymensingh highway in Trishal thana recently. She expressed her dissatisfaction over the activities of AED in the pest-attacked areas. Observing the situation she ordered the Deputy Director of AED to take immediate steps to bring the menace under control.

Following directives of the minister, the Deputy Director arranged pesticides spraying programme in Balor and Kanhor villages in Trishal thana.

It is worth mentioning that the District Agriculture Extension Department had taken 2,57,300 hectares of land under T-Aman cultivation in the current season fixing a production target of 4,69,411 metric tons of 'Aman' paddy. But due to devastating flood the 'Aman' cultivation has come down.

If the pest menace could not

be checked immediately the flood-ravaged farmers will experience further losses it is feared.

Our Habiganj Correspondent reports: A total of 73 thousand 6 hundred Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF) cards have been sanctioned by the government for 77 unions in eight thanas and four pourasavas of the district.

The cards will be issued among the distressed families. District Relief of Rehabilitation Department sources said, every card holder will receive eight kg of rice and eight kg of wheat.

The programme will be continued till harvesting of the next crops.

Of the total VGF Cards, 15,000 cards will be distributed in 15 unions of Baniyachong thana, 5,000 cards in five unions of Ajmiriganj thana, 12,100 cards in 13 unions of Nabiganj thana, 4,900 cards in seven unions of Bahubal thana, 8,300 cards in 10 unions of Habiganj thana, 6,000 cards in six unions of Lakhai thana, 9,200 cards in 11 unions of Madaypur thana, 5,000 cards in 10 unions of Chunarughat thana, 2,200 cards in Habiganj pourasava, 2,200 cards in Nabiganj pourasava, 200 cards in Madaypur pourasava, 1,500 cards in Shaistaganj pourasava.

The selection work of card holders is now going on in full swing.

Our Kushtia correspondent reports: Standing sugarcane in Kushtia mill zone area have been affected severely by flood

and pest attack.
A total of 17,000 acres of land have been brought under sugarcane cultivation at the mill zone area in the current season.

About 10,000 acres of land have been inundated by flood water. The roots of sugarcane plants are being rotten due to water logging.

There are no other crops in the affected crop-fields. Pest attack in the fields has increased alarmingly.

Swarms of 'Mazra' pests have attacked stems of sugarcane and after a few days of attack, the sugarcane leaves are being turned yellowish.

The pest-infested sugarcane will not yield sufficient juice to produce sugar. According to experts, sugar made from pest-infested sugarcane are also unfit for human consumption.

In the 'Mazra' affected areas farmers are reaping the immature sugarcane and making molasses with the help of power crushers.

Kushtia Sugar Mill sources said similar condition has been prevailing in Rajshahi zone. The only way to combat the pest menace is to cut the affected sugarcane stems and burn those.

UNB reports from Ramgati in Laxmipur district: Paddy fields in char areas of Ramgati thana have come under massive pest attack threatening the harvest in the current season.

The farmers have been facing serious problem with the attack following the prolonged flood which also caused huge crop loss to them.



MAGURA: A pest attacked Transplanted Aman paddy field situated under Ganges-Kobadak Project in Sripur thana. This picture was taken from a paddy field of Shamsul Islam of village Masalia last week.
— Star photo by Monojit Kumar Das.

Policeman gets life-term for torturing wife

BARISAL, Nov 4: A special tribunal recently convicted a policeman and sentenced him to life-term imprisonment for swindling and torturing his wife, reports UNB.

The Judge of the tribunal on Woman and Child Repression also fined the convict, Azizur Rahman, Tk 3,000, in default, to suffer six months more rigorous imprisonment.

According to prosecution, constable Azizur of Kotwali thana married Rezia Begum on Oct 3, 1996 concealing his real name.

Later, he refused to accept Rezia as his wife and tortured her when she went to him. Aziz was later transferred to Narsingdi from Barisal.

After examining the records and witnesses, the Judge found him guilty of fraudulence and torture, and handed down the judgement.

Seven policemen suspended at Sirajganj

SIRAJGANJ, Nov 4: Seven policemen were suspended for their alleged negligence of duty during recent hartal and brought to the district police line, reports UNB.

Sources said they did not perform their duty properly when the office of an Awami League leader in the town was ransacked during the hartal. The policemen are: Habilder Abdul Wadud and constables Abdul Malek, Abdur Rahman, Mohammad Ali, Abdul Hakim, Sri Ramesh and Sirajul Islam.

Frustration!

GAZIPUR, Nov 4: A prisoner of the district jail here was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital in critical condition recently with his penis cut off.

Police and jail sources said the man, identified as Ramij Uddin, 35, cut off his own penis with a sharp weapon inside the jail early in the morning.

A convicted prisoner, Ramij was rushed to the district hospital immediately after the incident. He told UNB that he had done it protesting mental torture on him and mismanagement in the jail.

He alleged that the Jamadar of the case table creates pressure on him to collect Tk 20,000 per month from the prisoners.

The Jail Super said the prisoner was assigned to work in the jail's case table because he was educated.

Notice of RHD Inviting Tenders

1. Tender Notice No : 04 of 1998-99 of Jessore Road Division.
2. Name of work : Construction of brick pavement (HBB) at different KM of different road under Jessore Road Division during 1998-99 (as per group list).
3. Name of offices of availability of tender documents : Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Khulna/Executive Engineer, (RHD), Road Divn, Jessore /Magura /Jhenidah/Kushtia/Narail/Chuadanga/Planning & Design Division (RHD), Boyra, Khulna/Planning & Programming (Roads & Bridges), Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka & All Sub-Divisional Engineers, Office under Jessore Road Division.
4. Name of Officers by whom tender will be received : Additional Chief Engineer (RHD), Khulna Zone, Khulna/Divisional Commissioner, Khulna/Superintending Engineer (RHD), Monitoring & Evaluation Circle, Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka/Superintending Engineer (RHD) Road Circle, Jessore/Executive Engineer, (RHD) Road Division, Jessore/Jhenidah/Magura/Kushtia/Narail/Chuadanga.
5. Last date & time for selling tender : Up to 5:00 PM on 18.11.98 Eng/4.8.1405 Beng. during office hours.
6. Last date & time for receiving tender : Up to 12:30 PM on 19.11.98 Eng./5.8.1405 Beng.
7. Last date & time of preparing the list of sealed tender : At 12:45 PM on 19.11.98 Eng/5.8.1405 Beng.
8. Date & time for opening of sealed tender bids : At 10:30 AM on 25.11.98 Eng/11-8-1405 Beng.
9. Date & time of lottery : At 11:00 AM on 2.12.98 Eng/18.8.1405 Beng.

Group List						
Sl no	Name of work	Gr. no.	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time allowed for completion of work	Eligibility of contractor
1	Brick pavement (HBB) work at 23rd (P) & 24th (P) KM of Kaiganj-Khajura-Raypur-Bagharpara road.	I (One)	Tk. 14,76,624/-	Tk. 29,533/-	40 (Forty) days	'A' to 'D' class under general category of RHD.
2	Brick pavement (HBB) work at 4th (P) & 5th (P) KM of Monirampur-Jhekorgacha road	II (Two)	Tk. 19,99,965/-	Tk. 39,999/-	-do-	-do-
3	Brick pavement (HBB) work at 3rd (P), 4th (P) & 5th (P) KM of Rajganj-Chakla-Khordaghat-Ferryghar road.	III (Three)	Tk. 24,99,980/-	Tk. 50,000/-	60 (Sixty) days	-do-
4	Brick pavement (HBB) work at 1st (P) & 2nd (P) KM of Rajganj-Chakra road via Kalarhat Bazar	IV (Four)	Tk. 11,51,154/-	Tk. 23,023/-	40 (Forty) days.	-do-
5	Brick pavement (HBB) work at 14th (P) KM of Monirampur-Bakra road via Dumurkhali Bazar	V (Five)	Tk. 11,51,002/-	Tk. 23,020/-	-do-	-do-
6	Brick pavement (HBB) work at 2nd (P) & 3rd (P) KM from Benapole Custom Colony to Gogabazar road	VI (Six)	Tk. 17,28,364/-	Tk. 34,567/-	45 (Forty-five) days.	-do-
7	Brick pavement (HBB) work at 2nd (P) & 3rd (P) KM of Monirampur-Noapara via Kulia-Nehalpur road	VII (Seven)	Tk. 11,48,795/-	Tk. 22,976/-	40 (Forty) days	-do-
8	Brick pavement (HBB) work at 13th (P) KM of Monoharpur Bazar-Chinatata Bazar road	VIII (Eight)	Tk. 11,50,138/-	Tk. 23,003/-	-do-	-do-
9	Brick pavement (HBB) work at 5th (P) & 6th (P) KM of Monirampur-Nowapara road via Shundail Bazar	IX (Nine)	Tk. 11,50,706/-	Tk. 23,014/-	-do-	-do-

Khandokar Monsur-ul-Alam
Executive Engineer (RHD)
(Current Charge)
Road Division, Jessore.
DFP-22986-29/10
G-2468



BRAHMANBARIA: Mahbubuddin Chowdhury, Secretary General of the National Association of UNESCO Clubs in Bangladesh distributing clothes, food and medicine to the students of NFUAJ World Terakoya Learning Centre in Bangladesh at sadar and Kasba thana.

Problems grip Sherpur Sadar Hospital

SHERPUR, Nov 4: People of the district have been suffering untold miseries owing to lack of medicine and required number of doctors in the sadar hospital and four thana health complexes, reports APB.

Only 45 doctors were working in five hospitals of the district against sanctioned positions of 55.

Positions of eight doctors have remained vacant while two doctors are on deputation.

There is no specialist in the ear, nose and throat (ENT), ophthalmological and dental departments in the sadar hospital.

The hospital does not have any blood bank even.

When contacted, the Civil Surgeon of Sherpur said, "Although there is an operation theatre and a surgery specialist, operations cannot be undertaken due to lack of an anaesthetist." There was no position of an anaesthetist in fact, he said.

The ultrasonogram machine of the hospital has been lying unused for a long time. The position of the radiologist has also been lying vacant, the Civil Surgeon said.

A generator has recently been installed at the hospital to ensure power supply round the clock, but it cannot be run as no operator has been appointed, nor any allocation made for procurement of fuel for the generator, he said.

Arrangements for supply of safe drinking water in the hospital is also reported to be inadequate. The pump machine allegedly remains out of order most of the time, patients complained.

Two ambulances and the

only microbus of the Nurses Training Institute have also been lying out of order for more than two years now.

Civil Surgeon office sources said that the annual allocation for the five hospitals of the district was only Tk 27 lakh.

Some 75 per cent of this annual allocation have to be spent for procurement of medicine. The remaining money is used for purchase of other hospital materials.

A major portion of medicine of the hospital are allegedly misappropriated and find their way to the market, patients alleged.

On an average, some 200 to 300 patients turn up at the hospital daily for treatment, most of whom are given prescriptions only.

Most of the patients cannot be admitted to the hospital for want of adequate number of beds. More serious patients, who cannot be sent back, often resort to what goes by the name 'flooring'.

Although the past government had plans for upgrading the hospital into a 100-bed one the commitment is yet to be materialised.

In absence of a full-time doctor, many of the patients cannot be treated at the Emergency Department of the hospital.

The doctors in five thana health complexes are more interested in private practice than hospital duties, locals said.

Patients and their attendants complain that none of these hospitals have separate wards for patients with contagious diseases, nor do the hospitals have a wholesome ambience.

Even stray dogs and cats move about freely within the hospital, they said.