

News snaps

Rapist awarded 10-year RI

HABIGANJ, Dec 7: A court here has sentenced a man to 10 years rigorous imprisonment (RI) on charge of violating a young girl, reports UNB.

The convict — Bidhu Bhushan Das of Kenduabah village in Baniachang thana of the district was also fined Tk 1,000 in default, to suffer more three months RI. The prosecution, in brief, was that Bidhu developed an affair with Kamala Rani of the same village and at an opportune moment he took her to a Mandir and pledged before their goddess that he accepted her as his wife. After some time Kamala became pregnant and she created pressure on him to marry her legally and take her to his house. But on his refusal Kamala filed a case with the police against him. After examining the records and witness Assistant Sessions Judge Ranjan Kumar Saha awarded the punishment on November 29.

Wife of Ershad's PS dies

SIRAJGANJ, Dec 7: The wife of Jatiya Party chairman HM Ershad's Private Secretary (PS) Maj (Retd) Shamsul Wajed was killed in an accident here on Bogra-Dhaka highway early Friday, reports APB.

Police said, Hasina Banu, 36, wife of Maj Wajed died instantly when the car she was travelling hit a truck at Sloydabad crossing in sadar thana at about 2 am. Hasina Banu met the tragic mishap while returning to Dhaka from Khanshama of Dinajpur district. The car was badly damaged. The victim's husband received the body from the local administration. She was buried at her family graveyard.

Two killed in Narsingdi road accident

BAGHBARI (Narsingdi), Dec 7: At least two people were killed and 30 others injured when a Ghorasal bound passenger bus plunged into a nearby ditch at Baghbari, some 11 kilometres away from Narsingdi district town on Saturday morning, police and eyewitnesses said, reports BSS.

Police sources said Kalu Mia, 50, from Comilla and one unidentified woman passenger were killed on the spot as the driver lost control over the steering when he tried to save the woman who was crossing the road. The injured were sent to different hospitals including Narsingdi Sadar Hospital, Madhabdi Health Centre and Dhaka Medical College Hospital. Fire fighters and local people rushed to the spot and rescued the injured passengers of the Ghorasal bound bus which started its journey from the capital.

Thakurgaon Youth Complex opens

THAKURGAON, Dec 7: The newly constructed Thakurgaon Youth Training Centre Complex at Jagannathpur was inaugurated by the Minister for Post, Telecommunication and Housing, Mohammad Nasim on Thursday, reports BSS.

In the inaugural function the minister distributed Taka 90,000 as loan among nine unemployed youths for different projects. Earlier, Taka 55 lakh was disbursed among unemployed youths from this centre. Mohammad Nasim was in Thakurgaon to inaugurate the 1000-line telephone exchange. He also addressed workers' meeting of Awami League at Thakurgaon Poura Auditorium and a public meeting at Lahirhat in Baliajandi thana.

Foundation laying ceremony held

KAPASIA, Dec 7: Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak called for launching united efforts imbuing with the spirit of the War of Liberation, to make the independence meaningful, reports BSS.

Speaking as the chief guest at the foundation laying ceremony of Mukti Joddha Complex, organised by Kapasia Thana Mukti Joddha Sangsads, the minister said the present government has been working to rehabilitate the freedom fighters and to ensure their welfare. Presided over by president of thana Mukti Joddha Samabaya Samity Mahmudul Alam Khan the function was addressed, among others, by Gazipur District Awami League leaders including Azmatullah Khan and Khaled Khurram.

Razzak said Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Rahman had freed the Bengalee nation from the chain of slavery by spearheading struggle for 23 years, resulting in the creation of independent and sovereign Bangladesh.

National

Barisal was liberated this day in 1971

From Aroop Talukdar

BARISAL, Dec 7: Barisal was liberated on December 8, 1971 and the people of Barisal heaved a sigh of relief after long 225 days of occupation by the Pakistani Army on 27th April, 1971.

On April 27 in 1971 the Occupation Pakistan Army by its combined operations from land, river and sky captured Barisal town along the Barisal-Faridpur highway. On April 24 the Occupation Pakistan Army started its operation. On way to Barisal they faced the first resistance at Gournadi, some 26 kilometres away from Barisal town on April 25 morning by a small group consisting of 20 freedom fighters, armed with 303 rifles. It was the first resistance against barbarous Pak military on way to Barisal by the freedom fighters.

Freedom fighters Syed Abul Hashem, Mokhtar Ali, Alaudin and Parimal were killed there in a face to face encounter on that day. The Occupation Pakistan Army armed with modern and sophisticated weapons on board gunboats proceeded towards Barisal town through river routes. They were resisted at Junahar near the town.

This resistance by the free-

dom fighters with two wooden body steamers and some 303 rifles could not stand for a long time. Later on the steamers sank in the river Kirtonkhola. At the same time Pak paratroopers were dropped at Talli, a place just outside the Barisal town where the paratroopers shot dead some innocent villagers.

Capturing Barisal, Pakistani troops set up their headquarters for Barisal zone at the then WAPDA (now Water Development Board) office building in front of Barisal Medical College and Hospital.

Later they made bunkers around their headquarters including torture chambers, jail and army camp.

After the fall of Barisal town the freedom fighters were split in smaller groups. They also formed separate groups in different places of the district.

At the same time these small groups of freedom fighters had to face both the armed dacoits and the Occupation Pak Army.

Some of the freedom fighters' groups of the then greater Barisal district were led by Kuddus Mollah at Mehendiganj, Jafar and Majib Rahman Talukder at Bakerganj, Jangir Bahadur at Swarup-

At the time the Occupation Pakistan Army became more

stronger with more modern arms and ammunition.

The greater Barisal district was led under the 9th sector command during the Liberation War. In August Captain Sahajahan Omar came to Barisal fleeing from the then West Pakistan Army camp. He was appointed as the first sub-sector commander by the then exile Mujibnagar Government. Captain Sahajahan came back along with some of his EPR colleagues and freedom fighters who were trained in India. They also carried some arms and ammunition from India.

Taking charge as sub-sector commander Captain Sahajahan Omar contacted with the scattered freedom fighters and set up the first sub-sector headquarters in a primary school at Dargabari of Barakatha village in Uzirpur thana area of Barisal district on September 6, 1971.

Within some days Captain Omar appointed base commanders in each thana areas. They were also given some modern arms and ammunition for guerilla operations. By then some brave youngmen from different areas were sent to training camps in India, particularly

for guerilla training.

But during the time disguised spies of the Occupation Pakistan army, local 'Razakars' and 'Albadars' informed the Pak Army about the activities of Captain Omar. In no time Captain Omar also received the news of Pak army's plan for attacking the guerilla camps and the headquarters. He quickly shifted the camps and headquarters to other safe places and alerted the freedom fighters who were trained in India. They also carried some arms and ammunition from India.

Surprisingly the next day

the Occupation Pakistan Army suddenly surrounded and attacked the Barakatha headquarters as well as the entire village. Finding no freedom fighters the barbarous Pakistan Army killed many peace loving innocent villagers, including women and children.

Almost all the houses of the village were set on fire. In the meantime, the freedom fighters kept on changing the position of camps.

By this time the freedom fighters planned to damage the communication links by damaging roads and bridges and engaging the Occupation Pakistan Army in guerilla warfare.

In November 71 the freedom fighters successfully captured Banaripara thana after several attempts under the leadership of Base Commander Jahangir Bahadur.

Uzirpur thana also was re-

captured by the freedom fighters after a bloody battle where about 10 policemen and a group of 'Razakars' were killed on the spot with many injured persons. Swarupkathi thana area was also recaptured almost in the same way in late November.

On December 6, Bakerganj thana was attacked by the freedom fighters who captured the thana area after a day. Mir Mustaque Hossain was killed by the Occupation Pakistani Army during the 3-day long gunfight.

On December 7, some high

ranking military and civil officials including the commanders of 'Razakars' and 'Albadars' of Barisal were informed about the fall of Bakerganj thana. As a result the activities of the Occupation Pakistan Army in Barisal town area geared up. Then there were some changes in plans.

December 8 was the victory day for the people of Barisal. In the morning military, civil officials, 'razakars' and 'albadar' chiefs and peace committee members met in a secret meeting in the office of the then Deputy Commissioner.

In the morning, suddenly, according to their secret plan curfew was imposed in some areas of the town. During the curfew hours by noon they left Barisal town heading for Dhaka with two steamers, two gunboats and a big passenger launch.

Surprisingly, by that time air raids by Indian Air Force was conducted in Barisal at 2 pm. When the news spread that the enemy had left the town people from all walks of life came out on the streets to celebrate their victory.

People gathered on the streets and chanted 'Joy Bangla' slogan. In the afternoon freedom fighters from different areas of the district entered into the town celebrating victory with the victorious people.

As soon as the freedom fighters entered into the town 'Razakars' and 'Albadars' started seeking shelterers leaving their arms either and thither. Captain Omar with his men reached Barisal from Padri Shipur on December 10.

People surrounded the enemies in the then WAPDA building upto December 15 till Nurul Islam Marjor from the then civilian chief of the 'Sector-9' asked the military and their collaborators to surrender unconditionally.

Accordingly the Occupation Pakistan Army and their collaborators surrendered on December 17.

Rehabilitation of martyrs' families sought

From Monojit Kumar Das

MAGURA, Dec 7: Magura, the gateway to south-western districts in the country has produced many brave and fearless freedom fighters in our Liberation War.

Their glorious contributions helped free Magura town from the clutch of the Occupation Pakistani Army much before December 16, 1971.

The freedom fighters of Magura like Sripur Bahini which was led by Md Akbar Hossain Mia played a glorious role in liberating Magura from the brutal Pak army a week before December 16.

The Allied Force started attack at different camps and points of the Occupation Pakistani Army in Magura town on December 6, according to a secret information of the then Captain ATMA Wahab, chief of the guerilla force named 'The Eagle' of Sector number 8.

Meanwhile, the freedom fighters of Sripur Bahini led by Md Akbar Hossain Mia reached the Nijndauli village adjacent to Magura town. A group of

fighters and innocent people were brutally killed by Pak Army during the nine months of our liberation struggle.

Lutfun Nahar Helen, a mistress of Magura Girls' High School was one of them. The brutal Pak army killed Lutfun Nahar Helen on October 5, 1971, the holy day of Shab-e-Kadar. After her killing the devil Pak Army tied her dead body behind the army jeep and drove round the jeep in Magura town creating great panic in the minds of the town dwellers.

Members of martyred families have complained, the memories of martyrs of our Liberation War are being lost in oblivion due to sheer indifference of the authorities concerned.

While talking to some gallant freedom fighters of Magura district they told this correspondent that no memorial had been erected till now to preserve the memories of the Liberation War.

They also regretted that a large number of freedom fighters and members of martyred families had been passing their days in great distress.

They have urged the government to take necessary steps for preserving the glorious memories of the Liberation War of Magura and proper rehabilitation of the families of martyrs.

The day was May 9, 1971. When he reached near Tetulatala, about five kilometres south of Jhenidah town, he was allegedly caught by the Occupation Pakistan Army. He did not return from the clutch of the brutal force. The next day his dead body was found near Tetulatala, but the family members could not collect the body fearing attack on them. As a result, beasts like jackals, dogs ate the body.

Habib was arrested for writing articles criticising the role of the then Pakistani administration in 1952. He was the founder-president of Jhenidah Press Club. He also participated in the Second World War actively.

Fish cultivated in different ponds were already washed away by flood water. Meanwhile, fishing is going on unabated in different water bodies shattering the prospects of fish production.

If these ponds are brought

15,000 ponds lying uncultivated in Chandpur district

From Our Correspondent

CHANDPUR, Dec 7: Acute scarcity of fish has been prevailing in the district causing great inconvenience to the consumers.

According to Chandpur Fisheries Department sources, its production has fallen down by about 50 per cent in the district due to the impact of flood. Besides, drying up of canals, siltation in rivers and other water bodies have attributed to fall of the production.

As a result, about 40 thousand fishermen have become jobless and in great hardship.

Official sources told this correspondent that about 15,000 ponds of seven thanas had been lying uncultivated due to dispute on ownership of the ponds.

If these ponds are brought



NATORE: Prof Zinnatun Nessa Talukdar, State Minister for Primary and Mass Education on Monday laid the foundation stone of the new building of Ibrahimpur Primary School.

Crisis of 'Boro' seeds

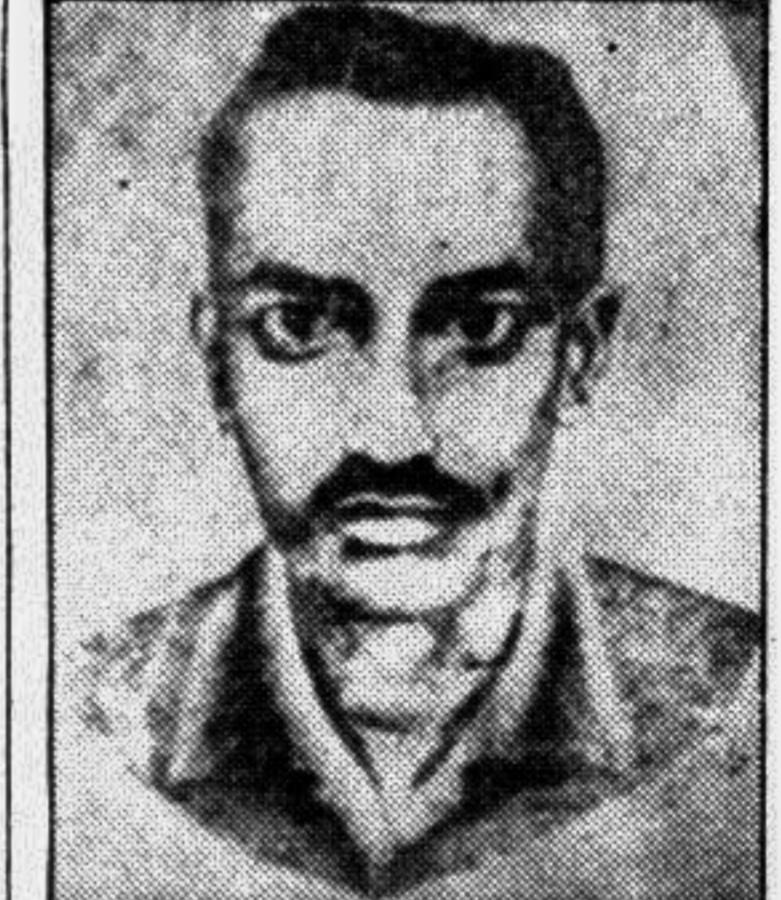
SHERPUR, Dec 7: Crisis of 'Boro' and wheat seeds in the district has threatened production cut in the district during the current season, reports UNB.

Agriculture Extension Department officials said the production target of HYV 'Boro' has been fixed at 2.26 lakh metric tons against the cultivation target of 56,500 hectares of land.

They said the target of wheat production was fixed at 50,000 metric tons against the farming target of 20,000 hectares.

It has supplied 19 metric

Memory of a martyred journalist still fresh in Jhenidah people's heart



From Delwar Kabir

JHENIDAH, Dec 7: Journalist Sheikh Habibur Rahman who devoted his life for the well-being of common people of Jhenidah district for long 20 years is a distinguished martyr of our Liberation War.

Rahman who was also an advocate served as a journalist of The Daily Azad from 1950 as the then correspondent of Jhenidah sub-division.

In 1971, the Occupation Pakistan Army announced that no Bengalees would be arrested or killed if they came back to the town. Believing in the announcement of the Occupation Army, Habib came out of his house.

The day was May 9, 1971. When he reached near Tetulatala, about five kilometres south of Jhenidah town, he was allegedly caught by the Occupation Pakistan Army. He did not return from the clutch of the brutal force. The next day his dead body was found near Tetulatala, but the family members could not collect the body fearing attack on them. As a result, beasts like jackals, dogs ate the body.

Habib was arrested for writing articles criticising the role of the then Pakistani administration in 1952. He was the founder-president of Jhenidah Press Club. He also participated in the Second World War actively.

Every year the local people including the journalists and their family members of the martyred journalist observe the day fittingly on May 9 to show respect to his departed soul. Martyred journalist Habibur Rahman still inspires the journalists of Jhenidah district for serving the distressed.

Notice of Tender

Military Engineer Services

- Applications are invited AHQ, QMG's Br. DW & CE (Army) Dhaka Cantt for issue of tender documents for the following works:
 - Constr of 4th floor over existing 'C' type Qtr bldg No. 46 incl internal/external svcs at Dhaka Cantt.
 - Constr of 1x2 'C' type Qtr over-existing 3rd floor of 'C' type Qtr bldg No. 315 incl internal/external svcs at Mirpur Cantt.
 - Constr of 1x2 'D' type Qtr over existing 3rd floor of 'D' type Qtr bldg No. 311 incl internal/external svcs at Mirpur Cantt.
 - Constr of 1x2 'D' type Qtr over existing 3rd floor of 'D' type Qtr bldg No. 316 incl internal/external svcs at Mirpur Cantt.
 - Constr of 1x2 'D' type Qtr over existing 3rd floor of 'D' type Qtr bldg No. 348 incl internal/external svcs at Mirpur Cantt.
 - Constr of 1x2 'D' type Qtr over existing 3rd floor of 'D' type Qtr bldg No. 362 incl internal/external svcs at Mirpur Cantt.
 - Eligible contractors may apply for tender documents as per MES Regulations. Interested MES enlisted 'C' & 'D' class contractors may apply quoting their class, index numbers, list of work done in last 05 (five) years. Contractors must have VAT registration. VAT and other taxes are payable as per rules. Applications should be submitted to this Directorate within 10 days from the date of publication of the advertisement mentioning name of works at the top of the envelope.
 - Authority reserves full power to accept/cancel any/all applications without assigning any reason.
- ISPR/Army/98/995
DFF-25551-2/12
G-2760
- DW & CE (Army)
Dhaka Cantt.

Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority

141-143, Motijheel Commercial

Area, Dhaka-1000

Tender Notice

Sealed tenders in prescribed form are invited from bonafide Manufacturers/Importers/Suppliers for supply of 2 (two) Nos 26" Roller Bengali Typewriter and 1 (one) No. 18" Roller English Typewriter:

- Tender No.
- Earnest money : 1/2 % of the quoted total amount (refundable) through Pay Order/Call Deposit