

News snaps

Maize farming gains popularity

From Our Correspondent
MAGURA, Apr 13: Maize cultivation is gaining popularity gradually in the district and its adjoining areas.

Firewood being used in brickfields

From Our Correspondent
GOPALGANJ, Apr 13: Despite government ban on firewood it is extensively used in the brick fields.

Bumper output of Boro expected

From Our Correspondent
KURIGRAM, Apr 13: A bumper production of Boro crop is expected this year in the district.

Property gutted

From Our Correspondent
MOULVIBAZAR, Apr 13: Property worth about Taka 5 lakh were gutted in Chowmuhana area of Shamsernagar under Kamalgonj thana recently.

76 shops gutted in Bhandaria

From Staff Correspondent
BARISAL, Apr 13: A total of 76 business establishments including six dwelling houses were burnt to the ashes incurring a loss of nearly ten crore taka in a devastating fire at the Bhandaria Bander area of Pirojpur district recently.

Clash over land

From Our Correspondent
KUSHTIA, Apr 13: Twenty-five persons including three women were injured when a bloody clash ensued between two rival groups recently at Amla Ghoshpara in Mirpur thana over possession of a disputed land.

New branch post office opens

From Our Correspondent
FARIDPUR, Apr 13: A new branch post office was opened at Moulvir Char hat in Char Bhadrasan thana on Wednesday.

Two dacoities in a week

From Our Correspondent
MYMENSINGH, Apr 13: Two dacoities were committed in two houses here in a week recently.

Storm lashes 5 Rangpur thanas

From Our Correspondent
RANGPUR, Apr 13: A cyclonic storm lashed parts of Sadar, Mithapukur, Badarganj, Kaunia and Pirgacha thanas on April 7, causing a colossal damage to houses, standing crops and trees.

Massive jute farming

MEHERPUR, Apr 13: A total of 10,000 hectares will be brought under jute cultivation in Meherpur district in the current season, reports BSS.

10 houses, 18 shops gutted

SIRAJGANJ, Apr 13: At least 10 dwelling houses and 18 shops were gutted when a devastating fire broke out recently at Enayetpur bazaar in Belkuchi thana, 30-kilometre from here, local fire service sources said, reports BSS.

Uplift schemes undertaken

KISHOREGANJ, Apr 13: District Relief and Disaster Management Department has taken up 707 schemes with an allocation of 1,200 tonnes of wheat under Test Relief (TR) programmes in the current dry season, reports BSS.

Enough groundwater for irrigation

THAKURGAON, Apr 13: A geologist of Water Development Board says there is enough groundwater for irrigation in Panchagarh and Thakurgaon districts, reports APB.

Peace meeting at Dagonbhuiyan

FENI, Apr 13: A peace meeting with the participation of all political parties was held at Dagonbhuiyan Thana Council Auditorium on Saturday to stop political violence and terrorism in the areas, reports APB.



MAGURA: The river Gorai is now flowing normally as its water level has gone up in this dry season. This picture was taken recently from the river ghat at Langabandh bazaar in Sripur thana here. Commodities like jute and molasses are being loaded in a boat for marketing to some other places. The river dried up in the last season. Engine boats could not ply at that time.

11,000 cases pending in Khulna CMM's court

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Apr 13: Over 11,000 out of 30,000 cases filed with the five police stations during last five years are still pending in the court of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (CMM).

were disposed of. A total of 30,217 cases were put up in the CMM's court for trial during last five years, of which 18,826 were disposed of.

number of cases with only three magistrates as they do not get enough time due to manifold reasons including frequent hartals and VIP duties.

police investigation and delay in getting autopsy reports. This creates prolonged suffering to both plaintiffs and defendants. In many cases it has been seen that the defendant, after suffering two years of hajat, has been given only six months imprisonment.

Political, business leaders meet

Pledge to make Natore town terrorism-free

From Anwar Ali

NATORE, Apr 13: The arch rivals of politics here have assembled on the same platform on April 10 in an anti-terrorism meeting.

influence the local administration. Their counterparts in UNB declared that they would fight for peace in the town.

business in the town was at stake due to extortions and terrorism. The elite of the town said that only honest motive of political leaders would help keep Natore free from terrorism.

Among others, the meeting was addressed by BNP MP Prof Quazi Golam Morshed, AL Presidium member Mamtauddin, the district AL president Advocate Sajedur Rahman, the district AL secretary Advocate Hanif Ali Sheikh, BNP Secretary Shahidul Islam Bachchu, BNP Organising Secretary Abdul Mannaf, JP leader Shirajul Islam Majnu, Natore Poursasra Chairman advocate Quamrul Islam.

Boundary pillars worth Tk 15 cr stolen in 3 years in greater Pabna

PABNA, Apr 13: Some 50,000 boundary demarcation pillars worth about Tk 15 crore were stolen in the last three years from 52,000 moujas of 18 thanas in Greater Pabna district, reports UNB.

According to official sources, following the theft the demarcation of the boundary has become a great problem in the district.

The British government, to avoid clashes among the landlords, set up the boundary determining pillars in between 1850 and 1855 AD after surveying the boundaries of the moujas.

They set up three triangle pillars in three ends of each mouja. Some 1.56 lakh pillars were set up in 52,000 moujas of Pabna and Sirajganj districts.



RAJBARI: French Ambassador in Bangladesh Renee Veyret speaking at the foundation laying function of a new Science and Library building at Belgachi Girls' High School near here on March 20 under a special grant of Taka 400,000 from the Ministry of Manpower.

Diarrhoea in 3 dists

By Staff Correspondent

Diarrhoea has broken out in three districts recently due to acute crisis of drinking water. Our Staff Correspondent from Barisal reports: Diarrhoea claimed 14 lives attacking nearly one thousand people in two thana areas of Patuakhali district during last two months.

months and many more are suffering from various diseases after taking the adulterated food. A section of unscrupulous traders are selling adulterated sugar, salt, rice and powder spices for a long time with a view to earning a windfall profit, it said.

According to Civil Surgeon Office in Patuakhali, due to shortage of pure drinking water diarrhoeal diseases have been broken out in the areas. Besides, salinity has increased in water of the shoal areas of Galachipa and Baulal thanas of the district.

It said that local people have been affected with various diseases due to the unabated adulteration of the food items.

Twenty medical teams have been formed to control the diarrhoeal situation, official sources said. The Civil Surgeon Office admitted death of 13 persons and attack of 931 people during that time. Dead victims were identified as Rina, 14, Fatema, 4, Nazrul, 28, Khokan, 26, Reshma, 2, Fulbanu, 40, Pianka, 2, Hamela, 34, Bina, 4, Hasan, 3, in Galachipa and Hanif, 7, Rashida, 9, Rabeya, 14, and another unidentified old woman of Baulal thana area.

A physician said unless proper steps are taken to resist the illegal sale of impure foodstuff immediately, situation might turn grave in near future.

Local leaders urged the authorities concerned to take necessary steps against the persons responsible for the malpractice at the cost of public health.

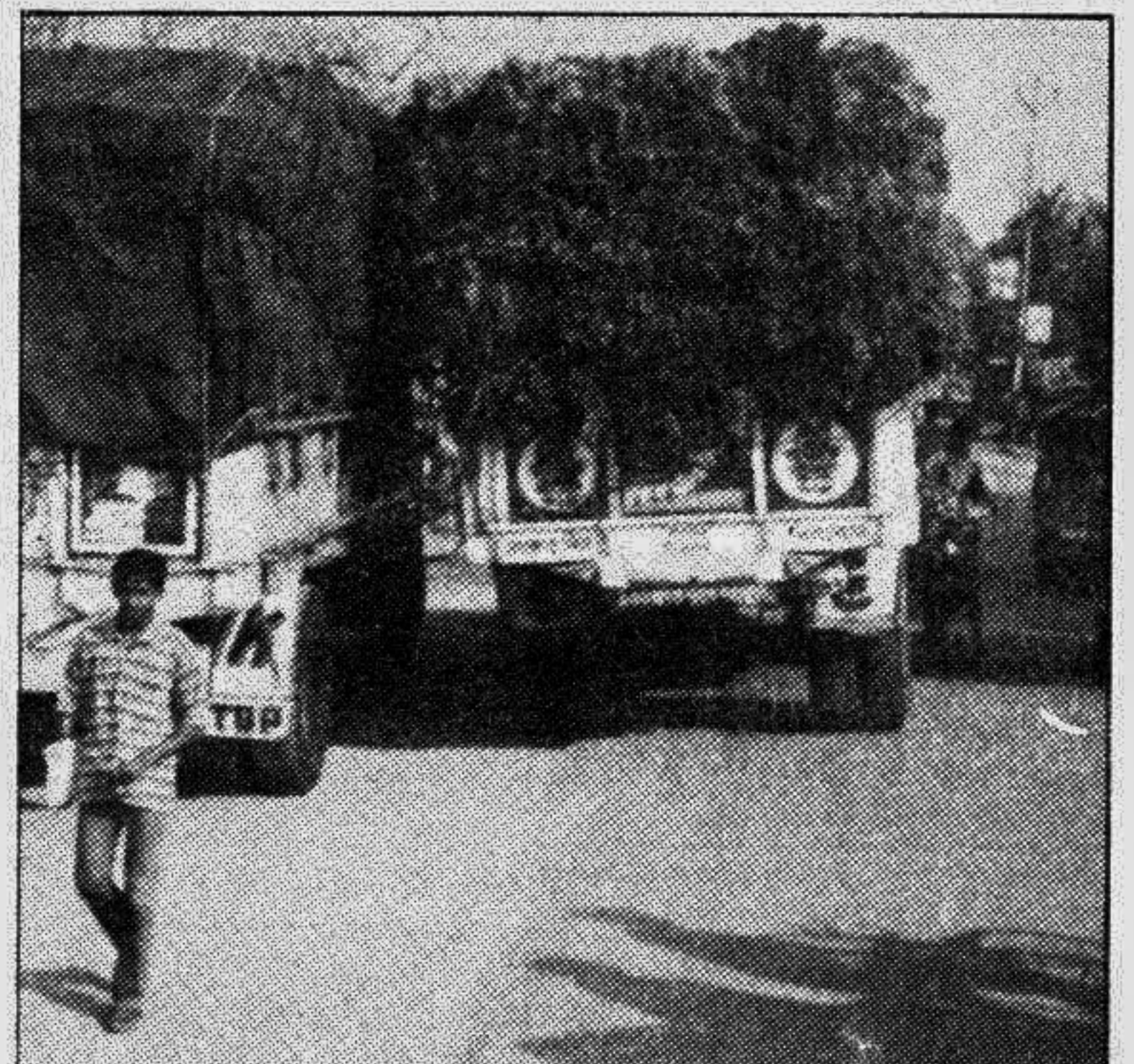
Local Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) sources said about 20,000 tubewells run by the department out of 23,390 have gone out of order.

According to a survey conducted by an NGO, some 115 people died of diarrhoea and dysentery during the last six

APB from Fabna says: About 90 per cent tubewells here reportedly has gone out of order with the drastic fall of underground water level due to drought and prolonged hot spell.

Shortage of drinking water also has posed a threat in different areas, causing health hazards and diseases including diarrhoea.

There are some 90,000 tubewells in nine thanas of the district, they added.



JHENIDAH: An acute scarcity of fodder has been prevailing throughout the district following the last year's worst ever flood. The prevailing drought has aggravated the situation now. Photo shows fodder is being carried by trucks to the local bazaars from far flung areas as it has become very costly.

Repression on women up in 2 districts

KUSHTIA, Apr 13: A girl, aged six, of Chewria village in Kumarkhali thana was raped by a miscreant of the adjacent Chewria Mudhipara village, police said, reports UNB.

for collecting grass on Friday noon, but did not return. Later police recovered her body and sent to the hospital for autopsy. A case was filed with the police.

According to a delayed report, the miscreant Halim forcibly took her to a nearby place of her house on March 28 and raped her. When the victim raised a hue and cry the hoodlum left the place. The girl was later rescued by her family members and treated by local doctors.

Another report from Sathkira said: a teen-age girl was rescued from the hands of kidnapers on Thursday.

The father of the victim lodged a case with the police in this connection, but the accused could not be arrested as yet.

The victim, identified as Shahanara Begum, 15, daughter of Abdul Mazed Sardar of Andia village of the Sadar thana, was forcibly taken away by five miscreants on the night when she came out of her house to respond to the call of nature.

Jamalpur Hospital morgue beset with problems

JAMALPUR, Apr 13: The morgue of the district hospital is beset with many problems hampering autopsy of the bodies of unnatural deaths, reports UNB.

The girl cried out when she was taken to Bhojra. Local people rescued her from the miscreants and handed over Shahanara to her father.

The only morgue here is burdened with heavy pressure where the necessary appliances are lacking causing untold sufferings to the relatives of the victims.

No case was filed with the police in this connection as the miscreants threatened the father of the girl of dire consequences if any case is filed against them.

Tension in Comilla Race Course area

COMILLA, Apr 13: Tension has been prevailing in Race Course area of the town centering the dispute over the ownership of a piece of land of a kindergarten school, reports UNB.

other necessary materials and facilities in order to ensure smooth performance of autopsy. Antiseptic, soap, bucket, spirit, sharp knife, towel, spade and water are not being supplied by the hospital. So the doctors and other people related to the autopsy process face serious problems.

The number of unnatural deaths due to various reasons including suicide, road accident, burning and murder is increasing in eight thanas here.

Local people said Pearsa Begum of the neighbourhood has been trying for long to grab the land of Udayan Kindergarten.

Everyday one or two bodies are being brought to the morgue for autopsy.

The relatives of the victims face serious problem in bringing the bodies from remote villages and have to spend a big amount of money for the purpose.

There is no fixed doctor in the hospital for performing autopsy. The number of doctor is quite inadequate for the general wards and departments including emergency.

So the hospital authorities can not spare a doctor for only this purpose, said a source.

He said the salary of 'Dome' or the man responsible for handling the dead body at the morgue was earlier paid by the district administration. But they were placed under the Health Department.

The department pays only the salary of the man, but has no budgetary allocation for

On information, local people laid siege to her house and caught red handed five young men with one pipe gun. They were identified as Dewar Hossain alias Dlu, Shahidul Islam, Zahurul Huq, Farhad and Faruq Ahmed while another youth Mizanur Rahman managed to flee the scene.

Police rescued the miscreants from the hands of the local people and arrested them.