

National

News snaps

Road mishap kills girl child

From Our Correspondent

KUSHITIA, May 22: A little child, Alo 3, was crushed under the wheel of a truck on Friday on Kazi Aref road of village Kachubaria in Mirpur thana, 12 miles away from Kushitia town. The victim, daughter of Alam of village Kachubaria came out of her house on road when a speeding truck hit her. She died on the spot. The truck could not be apprehended. Local people barricaded Kushitia-Meherpur road for about three hours. On getting information police from Amla camp reached there and recovered the body. They sent it to Kushitia General Hospital for autopsy. The road block was lifted after arrival of police.

Paddy stolen from land

From Our Correspondent

FARIDPUR, May 22: Ripe Irri-Boro paddy on 47 decimals of land belonging to Md. Shahiduzzaman Pramanik of village Mangalkot under Kotwali thana was stolen away at dead of night following May 1.

The paddy land owner filed a case with Kotwali thana accusing his 'bargader' Siraj Sarder and others in this connection. After investigation, police raided the house of Siraj Sarder and seized the stolen paddy from the house.

Woman with phenesidyl held

MADRIPUR, May 22: Narcotics Control Department arrested a woman with 45 bottles of phenesidyl syrup from New Court area in the town, reports UNB.

Acting on a tip-off, police raided the area and arrested Rani Majumder with the contraband item on May 13. Rani, wife of Siraj Majumder, hauled from Amgram in Rajoir thana of the district.

Wheat allocated

HABIGANJ, May 22: Disaster Management and Relief Ministry allocated 200 metric tons wheat to implement 90 uplift schemes in the district in the current fiscal year, reports UNB.

Under the Rural Infrastructure Maintenance Programme, some 24 schemes are being implemented in Nabiganj thana while 15 schemes in Bahubal, 21 in Sadar and 19 in Lakhai Thana and 11 others in Shayestaganj pourasava, officials said. The schemes include renovation of madrasah, mosque, library, maktab and mandir and repair and earth-filling work of roads and ghats.

Uplift projects progressing

JHALAKATI, May 22: A total of 410 uplift projects under the rural infrastructure reform and maintenance programme are progressing fast in four thanas of the district, reports UNB.

The Directorate of Relief and Rehabilitation has allocated 1,770 mts of wheat for the successful implementation of the schemes. Of the total schemes, official sources said, 89 will be implemented in sadar, 122 in Nalchit, 107 in Rajapur and 92 in Kathalia thanas. The works include the earth filling, construction and reconstruction of roads, cross dam, educational and religious institutions, bamboo bridges and cleaning of bushes, canals and ponds.

Low quality of seeds hits farming

KURIGRAM, May 22: The farmers of hybrid paddy in facing disastrous situation with a very low yield during the season though there is a bumper Boro production in the district, reports UNB.

Local growers complained that they are harvesting the paddy with very low yield mainly due to the bad quality of the seed. They collect "Aloke" hybrid seed from the agent of a local seed-trading house and through the BRAC. A total of four metric tons of seeds were distributed among the farmers. The farmers bought seed per kg between Tk 200 and Tk 220 and cultivated about 700 acres of land during the current season. But after harvest, they found the yield so poor much to their surprise. Joynal Abedin, a farmer of Nazir Miah Para at the outskirts of the town said he got only 36 maunds of paddy from per acre of land. He incurred a loss of Tk 4,765 in one acre according to the present market price of his produce.

VGF wheat seized: 3 held

SHARIATPUR, May 22: The Madaripur sadar thana police here have arrested three people and seized three tons of VGF wheat from Kazirtek ghat on the Arial Kha river, reports UNB.

Police said wheat has been dispatched to Madaripur for sale in the local market from Mahmudpur union of Shariatpur district. Police raided the trawler on suspicion on Monday and took into custody Mahmudpur UP Member Delwar Hossain, 30, his associates Asaldin, 28, and Ali Hossain Khan, 32. The arrested people have been sent back to Shariatpur. The chairman of Mahmudpur union, who is suspected for involvement in misappropriation of wheat, is absconding, police said.

BCIC International Re-Tender Notice

বিসিআইসি'র পণ্য শিল্পায়নে জাতীয় অংগতির প্রতীক

Managing Director, Khulna Newsprint Mills Ltd, Town Khalishpur, Khulna, invites sealed quotation under 2 (two) envelope system against International Tender Enquiry No KNM/PDI(F)-12A/99 for procurement of Paper Machine Felt on C&F (C) Mongla Seaport/Benapole border, Bangladesh basis under Cash Foreign Exchange. The quotation will be received within 3:00 PM on 22-6-1999 which shall be opened immediately thereafter. Tender documents shall be available on payment of Tk 500.00 (five hundred) per set (non-refundable) from 1) KNM Ltd, Khulna 2) BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka & (3) BCIC Branch Office, 6-Agrabad C/A, Chittagong. Earnest Money is Tk 1% of the total quoted C&F (C) Mongla/Benapole value. No tender documents shall be sold on the date of opening. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof.

BCIC-444-17/5/99
DFP-11076-18/5
G-950Addl Chief Manager (Purchase)
For Managing Director.

(Left) Pitiable condition of the house where Nazrul stayed at Trishal Nama Para (Right) This banyan tree preserves the memory of our National Poet who played flute sitting under here.



— Star photo

Nazrul's memory at Darirampur getting lost into oblivion

From Aminul Islam

MYMENSINGH, May 22: The centenary celebration of birth of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam will be held here on May 25.

A four-day programme has been arranged at Darirampur village in Trishal thana where the great poet stayed during his boyhood. The programme has arranged jointly by the local district administration and Greater Mymensingh Cultural Forum.

Elaborate programmes have also been taken by many other socio-cultural organisations to observe the day befittingly.

Nazrul came to Darirampur in 1914 when he was only 15 years old.

Young Nazrul worked at a bakery at Ashansol of Burdwan district in India. As he had no place to sleep, he used to sleep under the staircase of a building. One day a police officer named Kazi Rafizuddin found Nazrul sleeping under the staircase of his residence.

Rafizuddin hailed from Darirampur in Mymensingh district. He used to live in that

very building. The police official asked Nazrul about his family. Hearing the sad tale of Nazrul's family, he appointed Nazrul as his domestic help. Rafizuddin had no child. He admitted Nazrul in a school.

Later on Nazrul was shifted to Darirampur. He was admitted in Darirampur High School in Class seven with a full-free studentship in 1914. But after several months, Nazrul shifted his lodging to the house of Bichota Bepari at Trishal Nama Para. This is because the house of Rafizuddin was about seven km far from the school.

Nazrul was not attentive to his studies here. He used to sit in a calm and quiet place with a vacant look or play flute sitting under a banyan tree. He passed his leisure time this way as he was a new comer there. When he played his flute people of the locality listened to it very attentively. He drew their attention within a short time. The glorious banyan tree is still standing there. But none has taken any initiative to preserve this place.

The government is also indifferent regarding preservation of the place.

However, though inattentive to his studies, his academic result was good. He was promoted to Class eight. But Nazrul was not present at Darirampur then. He had fled from there by that time.

During his school life there, Nazrul took part in the annual cultural function of the school. Nazrul enthralled all the teachers and students of the school reciting Togore's poem — 'Dui Bigha Jomi'. Mahim Chandra Khansabish, English teacher of the school had conducted the function.

The people of Darirampur and nearby still remember Nazrul's memory as their near and dear one. Several intuitions of this area have been named after him.

But the people alleged, for want of proper maintenance, many things relating to his memory including the banyan tree, the house where Nazrul lodged are about to destroy.



A plot of BINADHAN-6, the latest high yielding variety (HYV) of paddy which has been invented by Bangladesh Institute of Nuclear Agriculture (BINA). Farmers have produced 150 maunds of paddy from one acre of land. This photo was taken recently from Mymensingh area.

— Star photo

Man to die for killing wife

From Ranesh Maitra

PABNA, May 22: One person will be hanged to death for killing his newly married wife.

The judge of Special Court for Trying Cases under Representation of Women and Children Act here recently awarded the punishment.

Muhammad Jahangir Alam, Additional District and Sessions Judge and Judge of the Special Court of Pabna passed the death sentence against accused Aslam. Aslam is the son of Abdus Samad of village Kaliakupur in Pabna sadar thana.

Accused Aslam married Rita Khaton, neice of Sekendar Ali, who was the complainant of the case, only one month and six days before the incident.

On July 1, 1997, the complainant lodged an 'ejahar' with the thana alleging that at the time of his niece's marriage, the groom demanded Taka 10,000 as dowry, but they paid Taka 5,000 on the day of the marriage.

But they did not get any 'satisfactory' reply from him.

On the same day Rita was taken to her father-in-law's house. After eight days, her father-in-law brought back Rita to her parent's house. He demanded the remaining amount of Taka 5,000.

Her father-in-law took Rita back to her house. Before returning he told Rita's father that Aslam did not choose Rita and that was why they had demanded the amount.

At about 1:45 am on July 1, 1997, Aslam came to the house of the complainant (his uncle-in-law) and told him that Rita was missing from 10 pm.

Receiving the news, the complainant, Sekendar Ali, along with his neighbours Badal Pramanik, Jalaluddin, Abdul Majid, Syed and Mukhtar Hossain rushed to village Kaliakupur and asked Rita's father in law about her whereabouts.

However, the prosecution failed to prove their allegations against the remaining three accused persons. So the judge passed an order acquitting them.

LDF workers' sit-in in front of Rajshahi DC office

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, May 22: Several hundred activists of the Left Democratic Front (LDF) staged a sit-in-demonstration in front of the office of Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Rajshahi from 10 am to 1 pm on Thursday demanding immediate and unconditional release of its leader Comrade Enamul Hoque.

They also laid siege to his office.

Police arrested him on Monday from his residence on charge of subversive activities. Enamul Hoque is the district convenor of LDF and general secretary of Communist Party of Bangladesh. Rajshahi district unit.

The sit-in-demonstration was addressed by Workers Party central politburo member Fazle Hossain Badhsha, district unit general secretary Rafiqul Islam Parul, city unit general secretary Ferdous Kamal Masum, BDR district coordinator Ruhul Quddus Tunu, CPB district unit president Mohammad Mohsin, NAP leader Asif Sen and others.

At about 10 am the next morning, Rita's body was recovered from a sugarcane field. The sugarcane field was situated towards the southern direction of Aslam's house. On further query, the accused admitted that she had killed her in their house. Afterwards her body was thrown on the sugarcane field for concealing the matter.

Police submitted chargesheet against Aslam, his father Abdus Samad, mother Mayna Khaton and one Abdul Hai following investigations.

After examining the evidence, statements cross-examinations of the witnesses and after pursuing the documentary evidences, the judge passed the order for hanging Aslam till death.

However, the prosecution failed to prove their allegations against the remaining three accused persons. So the judge passed an order acquitting them.

Sweet water fish on verge of extinction in N-dists

NATORE, May 22: Sweet water fish in the northern region are on the verge of extinction as production has alarmingly decreased in the past one decade, reports UNB.

In addition to depriving the people of a major source of protein, the dwindling fish production would adversely affect the livelihood of about 10 lakh people engaged in fishing throughout the country, including 2.5 lakh in the 16 northern districts.

About 50 varieties of fish have become rare in Natore, Rajshahi, Naogaon, Chaitpawabganj, Pabna and Sirajganj districts due to random netting of the fish fry.

Moreover, hundreds of haors, beels, ponds and other water bodies in these districts, once reputed for surplus fish producing zone, are about to dry up due to adverse effect of Farakka Barrage.

Besides, indiscriminate use of current nets during the breeding season has aggravated the fish crisis, the survey revealed.

The existing varieties of fish are also decreasing due to excessive use of chemical fertilisers and pesticides on surrounding croplands and drying up of vast water bodies in the region.



— Star photo

Acute water crisis prevails in Feni

FENI, May 22: Water crisis has been prevailing in the district town due to loadshedding and low capacity of the pump houses, reports UNB.

Officials sources said one pump house out of four, remained out of order further deepening the crisis.

The dwellers have been seriously suffering due to this problem for long. Irregular supply and low pressure are the main problems for the subscribers.

The total demand of water in the district town is 12 lakh gallons while the authorities could supply only 1.75 lakh gallons.

Besides, many subscribers collect extra water through setting up pumps with the supply lines. The poura authorities requested the subscribers to stop the practice, even conducted operation, but these efforts yield no positive results.

Some 200 subscribers asked the Public Health Engineering Department to snap their connection as they do not get any water from the supply, but the authorities allegedly did not pay any heed to their problem.

Now the library at Darirampur commemorating the memory of the poet has been facing various problems, complained the local people.

from 1988. These were constructed with Japanese assistance.

Each of the tanks has a capacity of 16,000 gallons. But shortly afterwards, one of the tanks went out of operation.

Local officials of PHED said they have written to the government for allocating money for the repair of the tank, but no allocation was available so far.

Besides, the pump house at Masterpara is under threat of being stopped any time. The authorities are operating it with high risk.

There will be a serious crisis in water supply if the pump house goes out of order.

Local pourashava set up 28-kilometre supply line and gave 1,350 connections in the municipality area. Besides, it also set up 25 street hydrants in different parts of the town.

276 villages electrified

From Our Correspondent

CHUADANGA, May 22: Under the Rural Electrification Programme, a total of 276 villages in four thanas of the district have been electrified.

Tender Invitation Notice by R&H Department

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1. Tender Notice No.	24/MWD/1998-99 year.	3	As per group list mentioned in the table below:						
2. Name of work		</td							