

National

News snaps

Two trucks looted

From Our Correspondent

MYMENSINGH, May 31 : Two trucks were looted by a group of dacoits on Mymensingh-Tangail highway in the early hours of May 20.

According to police, the dacoits waylaid two trucks at Nimuria in Muktagacha thana. They looted cash and valuables amounting to over Taka one lakh. Protesting the incidents the road communication was suspended for four hours on the road due to barricade erected by the local people.

15 arrested in Kushtia

From Staff Correspondent

KUSHTIA, May 31 : Kushtia Zilla Police conducted raids in different parts of the district on May 22 and arrested 15 accused persons.

Police recovered four arms and two rounds of ammunition from their possession. Of the arrested, two hailed from Kushtia sadar thana, three from Kumarkhali thana, one from Mirpur thana, one from Khoksa thana and two from Bheramara thana. Police recovered one country made revolver and one round ammunition from Daulatpur thana along with two shutter guns and one cartridge. Police also recovered one maskat rifle in abandoned condition from Daulatpur area.

Maize farming programme

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, May 31 : A massive maize cultivation programme has been undertaken in 16 northern districts.

A total of 8,810 hectares of land will be brought under the corn cultivation. This time the authorities concerned expect a production of 40,000 tons of maize. Last year in Gaibandha district farmers who cultivated maize could not get fair price of their product as government did not procure maize.

Truck recovered

From Our Correspondent

JAMALPUR, May 31 : A stolen truck was recovered and one person was arrested from village Nakati of Kendua union in the sadar thana recently.

Acting on a tip-off, the sadar police rescued the truck from a bush of the village and arrested Akbar Ali, a painting worker who was about to change the number plate of the truck. According to his confession, the truck was stolen by a driver named Dulal and the arrested person himself from Savar thana area in Dhaka on May 5.

Valuables worth Tk 50,000 stolen

From Our Correspondent

FARIDPUR, May 31 : Thefts were committed in 10 houses at two villages in Boalmari thana on the night of May 11.

According to local sources, thefts were committed in the houses of Shahid Molla, Khalek Molla, Sukur Mla, Shamsu Sheik and Kali Baba Malsaker of village Durgapur and in the houses of Jalil Sheikh, Raten Sen, Jaker Molla, Rob Molla and Tauthid Haq of village Teljuri. Valuables worth Taka 50,000 were taken away by the thieves.

Shortage of jute seeds

From Our Correspondent

NETRAKONA, May 31 : The cultivation target of jute may not be achieved in all the 10 thanas of the district during the current season due to shortage of seeds.

According to Agriculture Extension Department (AED), a scheme has been taken up to bring 12,000 hectares of land under jute cultivation during the current season. But the target may face set-back in this season due to non-availability of High Yielding Variety (HYV) seeds.

JP leaders' release demanded

From A Correspondent

MAGURA, May 31 : The district unit of Jatiya Party (JP) brought out a procession on May 26 demanding release of their central leaders Shah Moazzam Hossain and ABD Shahjahan.

The procession paraded the main streets of the town. Later on a meeting was held at Chourangi square of the town with advocate Moyan Uddin in the chair. The meeting was addressed, among others, by advocate Hassan Seraj, advocate Ratan Kumar, Md. Sardar Md. Bishid, M. Fateh Ali and Zahidul Islam.

2 women commit suicide

COMILLA, May 31 : Two women allegedly committed suicide in Kotwala thana here, police said, reports UNB.

According to local people, Minara, 22, wife of Monir Hossain alias Mana of Sangrai area of the town allegedly committed suicide by hanging herself following torture of her husband on May 23. Mafis Begum, 19, of Joramehar village who was abandoned by her husband allegedly committed suicide by taking poison on the same day. Earlier, Minara, mother of two children, went to her parents' house following a quarrel on the illicit relationship of her husband with the wife of his brother. Later the matter was settled and she was brought back to her husband's house. But Mana started torturing her again. Finding no other way out on the fateful day she allegedly committed suicide. After the incident Mana went into hiding. Meanwhile, Mana died on way to the local hospital. The cause behind the suicide could not be known immediately.

Touchstone idol recovered

SHARIATPUR, May 31 : Villagers of Nayagaon at Naria thana here recovered a touchstone idol while digging a pond, reports UNB.

Police seized the idol said to be worth about Taka Five crore. Meanwhile, local people foiled an attempt on Thursday by some young miscreants to take away a valuable touchstone idol from the Ram temple of Bhojeshwar bander of the same thana.

Contrabands recovered

CORILLA, May 31 : BDR recovered huge contraband items including beer and phenisidyl from a Chandpur-bound local train, police said on Sunday, reports UNB.

According to police, BDR jawans of Sankuchail camp of Burichara thana raided the train on May 22 and recovered 97 bottles of phenisidyl, 106 bottles of beer and Indian sarees. A case was filed with the police.

Acid thrown on housewife

MANIKGANJ, May 31 : A housewife sustained severe burn injuries as her husband threw acid on her at village West Seota in the sadar thana on Monday night, reports UNB.

Witnesses said Sarala, 20, of village Golora, in Saturia thana was being tortured by her husband Lalma since her marriage two years back. On the fateful night, husband and mother-in-law of Sarala, following a family feud, tied her hands and legs and cut her hair. At one stage they poured acid on her body inflicting her grievously.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Department of Environment

Paribesh Bhaban, E-16, Agargaon
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207

No Paribesh/Tech(RgnLab)-52/97(3rd)/1039 Dated: Dhaka the 26/05/99

Notice Inviting Re-Tender

No-5 (1998-99)

(3rd call)

Sealed tenders in prescribed forms are hereby invited from bona fide agents of internationally reputed company only for supplying of 1 (one) Computer (DELL, IBM, Gate-Way and Compaq brand only), Printer (Laser Jet) and UPS of internationally reputed Company.

01. Cost of tender documents: Tk 400/- (four hundred) only (non-refundable).

02. Bid closing date and time: 08/06/99 at 12.00 Noon.

03. Tender schedule/documents will be available at the office of the undersigned from 9 AM to 5 PM on all working days up to 07/06/99.

04. Amount of bid security : 2.5% of bid amount.

Md Shahjahan

Project Director

Improvement of Regional Laboratories

and Development of Decentralized

Infrastructure of Department of

Environment Project

DFP-12148-30/5 G-1024

IRRI-Boro growers deprived of fair price

From A Correspondent

MAGURA, May 31 : The price of newly harvested IRRI-Boro paddy in different hats and bazaars of the district is falling sharply.

The growers of four thanas are not getting fair price of their crops for want of genuine buyers.

According to the farmers, the paddy market is being controlled by a section of middlemen and influential persons. They are offering a low price depriving the farmers of fair price.

Abdur Rahman, a farmer of Parnanduali village in the sadar thana said, the production cost was higher this year due to prolonged drought and absence of rainfall. The need for irrigation was about 50 per cent higher in comparison with the previous year. The cost of labour was higher in this harvesting season. The production cost of a maund of paddy was between Taka 280 to Taka 300. But as there is no genuine buyer in hats and bazaars in the district, the middlemen are offering lesser price. The farmers are compelled to sell paddy between Taka 250 to Taka 260 per maund which is below their production cost.

This correspondent visited Rammagar, Nakol, Sachilapur, Khamarpura, Gangalnia, Nutonbazar, Katakhal, Issakha and Arpara. The places are famous for paddy trading. He found that a section of influential persons and middlemen had been dominating the paddy markets. They are also controlling price of paddy as there is almost no genuine buyers.

Expecting hire prices the growers wait with their produce for hours together every day, but the middlemen offer them a low price. As a result they are compelled to sell their produce at the rate fixed by the middlemen and influential persons.

According to the District



MAGURA: A bumper production of IRRI-Boro paddy has been achieved in this district, but the paddy prices are below the production cost of growers this season. Photo shows farmers waiting in vain at a local bazaar with their produce for a long time to get fair prices.

— Star photo

production has been achieved this year.

A total of 1,65,633 metric tons of paddy has been produced which is 91,106 metric tons higher than the target, the local Agriculture Extension Department (AED) sources said. The sources further said that the farmers of the districts got Krishibank loan and seeds supplied by BADC in time. They brought more lands under IRRI-Boro cultivation than the target fixed by AED to recuperate their flood damage.

— Star photo

Food Office sources, the government procurement drive of IRRI-Boro paddy and rice have been started through six buying centres in the district. The prices of paddy and rice were fixed Taka 825 and Taka 1,300 per quintal respectively.

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It may be mentioned in this connection that in four thanas of the district, the cultivation of IRRI-Boro has exceeded the targets though a prolonged drought prevailed during the paddy cultivation period.

In the district 29,855 hectares of land had been brought under IRRI-Boro cultivation than the target fixed by AED to recuperate their flood damage.

According to the AED, the farmers are not coming forward to sell their paddy and rice to the government buying centres. As a result, till now the government procured only 286 metric tons of paddy and 230 metric tons of rice, while the target of procuring paddy and

rice was fixed at 1,200 metric tons and 3,000 metric tons respectively.

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