

News snaps

SI closed

JESSORE, July 7: A police sub-inspector was closed on Sunday to the district police lines from Chowgacha thana for misuse of power, reports UNB.

Sources said action against SI Mohsin was taken for his alleged involvement in corruption.

Saplings distributed

BANDARAN, July 7: As part of the month-long countrywide plantation drive, the Forest Department will distribute two lakh saplings among people at nominal prices, reports UNB.

Officials announced this at a pre-rally gathering of the local people here on Tuesday. The rally, marking the inauguration of sapling distribution, was brought out in the town from the Forest Office. Later on Deputy Commissioner Mohsin Ali Sardar and District Council Chairman Thoanchang Master planted two Krishnachura saplings at the DC office premises.

Work progressing

PIROJPUR, July 7: Local Government and Engineering Department (LGED) has sanctioned Taka 48,60,025 for construction of 10 bridges in two thanas here, reports UNB.

Of the bridges, one is being constructed in the sadar thana while nine others in Mathbaria thanas, officials said. About 60 per cent works on the bridges have been completed, they said.



RAJSHAHI: About 55,000 children upto five years have taken Vitamin-A capsules during the National Vitamin-A Week which was observed here recently. City mayor Mianur Rahman Minu seen inaugurating the week by feeding a baby Vitamin-A capsule. — Star photo

1,36,170 vaccinated

PIROJPUR, July 7: A total of 1,36,170 mothers and children in six thanas here were vaccinated under Extended Programme of Immunisation (EPI) last year, reports UNB.

The thana-wise breakup of the vaccinated mothers and children is: 21,137 in sadar, 27,059 in Mathbaria, 29,699 in Nesarab and 21,750 in Nazirpur. A total of 19,355 mothers and children in Bhantara and 10,928 in Kaokhali thanas and 6,251 in the municipality have also been brought under the programme to vaccinate them against BCG, DPT, polio measles and tetanus, officials said.

Loan for farmers

NARSINGDI, July 7: Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB) disbursed Taka 1,68,28,000 among 3,100 farmers and landless poor men and women in six thanas as loan in 1998-99 fiscal year, reports BSS.

According to an official source, the loan was disbursed for Boro cultivation and creating employment opportunity and socio-economic development of the marginal farmers and poor people. Of the total amount, Tk 57,93,000 was disbursed among 1,079 members of 66 saplings as crop loan and Tk 1,07,45,000 among 2,041 poor members as poverty alleviation loan. Meanwhile, BRDB, Narsingdi branch recovered Tk 1,09,95,000 outstanding loan in the same fiscal year.

Foundation stone laid

NAOGAON, July 7: Abdul Jalil, a central leader of the Bangladesh Awami League has laid the foundation stone of the newly established Fazluddin Memorial College at Khakra here last week, reports BSS.

Principal of the college Prof M Babur Ali presided over the function. Chairman of Naogaon Pourashava Akhtar Ahmed Siddique, district Awami League Secretary M Abdul Malek and president of Naogaon district Chamber of Commerce and Industries M Shamsul Alam, among others, spoke on the occasion. Abdul Jalil said that the present government had allocated maximum amount for the education sector.

FWP projects being implemented

KISHOREGANJ, July 7: The Relief, Rehabilitation and Disaster Management Department has been implementing 249 projects in 13 thanas under its Food-for-Works Programme, an official source said, reports BSS.

The government sanctioned 2,769 tonnes of wheat for implementation of the projects in 1998-99 fiscal year. The projects included reconstruction of rural infrastructure especially roads, educational and religious institutions. Thanaawali allotted wheat and number of projects are: 191 tons for 19 projects in Hossainpur, 157 tons for seven projects in Bhairab, 170 tons for 20 projects in Astagram, 224 tons for 19 projects in Bajitpur, 171 tons for 20 projects in Itna, 305 tons for 29 projects in Karimganj, 341 tons for 25 projects in Katiadi, 143 tons for 10 projects in Nikli thana, 270 tons for 25 projects in Pakundia, 178 tons for 13 projects in Tarail, 1389 tons for 10 projects in Mithamon, 309 tons for 33 projects in Kishoreganj sadar thana and 171 tons for 19 projects in Kularchar thana.

Training course

MADRIPUR, July 7: A three-day training course on cultivation of high yielding sugarcane organised by the district Agriculture Extension Department (AED) concluded here recently, reports BSS.

A total of 30 sugarcane growers from Shibchar thana participated in the training course. Deputy Director, AED Md Sayed Ali attended the concluding function as the chief guest. Thana agriculture officer, Shibchar presided over the function. Abdul Hakim, a sugarcane expert conducted the training course.

Three of a family shot at

From Our Correspondent

KUSHTIA, July 7: Three members of the same family received bullet wounds at Arupara recently when a group of armed terrorists fired gun shots on them.

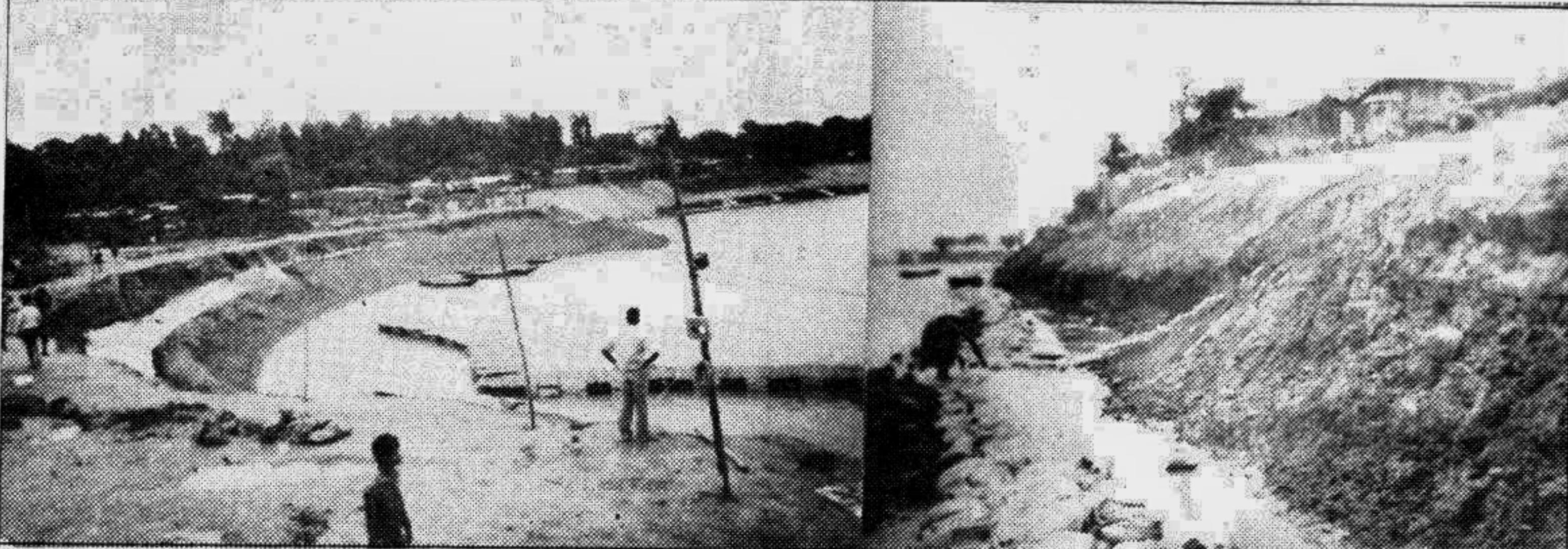
They are in critical condition at Kushtia General Hospital. The injured are Dodul Hasan, 25, Rokeya Begum, 60, and Ripon, 30, cousin of Dodul. Police sources said that on June 28 Afzal Hossain, a businessman was robbed of Taka one lakh 8 thousand 400 in front of Rupali Bank in day light. Police also said that firing incident was the result of dispute over disbursement of the robbed money among the hijackers. Armed terrorists entered into the house of Tarikul, but in his absence they resorted to firing on the inmates of the house.



KURGRAM: A drama was staged here recently by the elderly people at village Tograihat in Rajbari thana. — Star photo



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RAJSHAHI: Renovation work on last year's flood damaged T-Groyne of Rajshahi town protection embankment going on during this ongoing rainy season when water level in the Padma rising rapidly. Picture shows (Left) the eastern side of base line of the T-Groyne. The riverside base of the embankment is being repaired amid erosion by the river. Uncertainty looms over continuation of the renovation work due to sharp rise in water level of the river.

— Star photo by Abdul Wadood

Prisoners deprived of treatment in Rajshahi central jail hospital

From Abdul Wadood

RAJSHAHI, July 7: Alleged negligence, irregularities and corruptions in the Medical Department of Rajshahi central jail have rendered the sick prisoners to immense sufferings. The prisoners do not get proper attention and medicines until their conditions become serious. Four inmates of the jail died of different diseases in a month (June) due to alleged negligence of the jail authorities. According to the concerned sources, there is a 50-bed hospital

for the prisoners in the jail premises. But actually sick prisoners usually do not get beds there. Influential and wealthy prisoners somehow manage the authorities and get admitted into the hospital in the guise of sickness to avoid sufferings in the ward. They remain there for days together keeping the beds always occupied. As a result, the prisoners, who fall actually sick do not get admision. They have to remain in their wards almost unattended. When their conditions deteriorate, only then the

jail authorities make arrangements to send them to the nearby Rajshahi Medical college Hospital (RMCH).

The process kills much time and the patients die before their shifting to the hospital. Once taken alive to RMCH, their conditions become very bad.

Relatives of the dead prisoners often allege that their people had not been given due attentions during their sickness. There is however, no record of taking legal actions by them. Advocate Abul Qasem, President of the Rajshahi

branch of Bangladesh Manobadhabik Bastobayon Sangstha said that they had been conscious about the allegations of the jail authorities, but they did not get any written allegations.

In terms of human rights, he said, "Each and every citizen in the country, including the prisoners, has the right to get food, cloths, shelter and proper treatment facilities." He urged the government and the jail authorities to ensure the prisoners' human rights.

Boy languishing in Natore jail for 19 months

From Anwar Ali

NATORE, July 7: A teenage boy has been languishing in Natore jail for about 19 months without any trial.

The trial of the case against the boy could not be started due to administrative snags.

According to sources in the jail, police and court, the boy is identified as Mizanur Rahman, 16, son of Abu Sayeed of Binsara village in Tarash thana of Sirajganj district.

The court sources said, if the court can be confirmed regarding Achhalat's absconding, the trial will be started after maintaining normal procedures.

The boy, in the meantime, prayed for his bail which was rejected by the court on the ground of non-availability of any person standing monetary security for the boy's appearance in court. As a consequence Mizanur has to stay in jail for an indefinite period.

Nobody below the age of 16 years can be kept in jail, so says the jail code. But in December '97 when Mizanur was arrested and kept in jail, he was below 16 years, it was learnt.

It is to be mentioned here that Mizanur and Achhalat allegedly looted and killed Amir Hamza, a farmer of Borogram village at Dahaia union in Shingra thana while the victim was returning home selling a cow at a nearby 'hat' on December 3, 1997, it was alleged in the case which was filed against the two.

It is to be mentioned here that Mizanur and Achhalat allegedly looted and killed Amir Hamza, a farmer of Borogram village at Dahaia union in Shingra thana while the victim was returning home selling a cow at a nearby 'hat' on December 3, 1997, it was alleged in the case which was filed against the two.

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