

National

News snaps

Satkhira Press Club EC meet

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, July 14: A meeting of the executive committee of Satkhira Press Club was held recently in the club with Subhas Chowdhury, President of the club, in the chair.

The meeting was addressed, among others, by Mizanur Rahman, Manirul Islam Mini, Altaf Hossain, Anisur Rahim, Abdul Bari, Dilip Kumar Dev, Sk Abdul Wazed Kachi, Al-Mahmud Palash and Abdus Sattar.

221 criminal cases in six months

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, July 14: A total of 221 criminal cases were filed with Gobindaganj thana during the last six months. Most of the cases are rape and women repression.

A total of 41 criminal cases were filed with the thana in the last month. Of the cases 17 were of rape, 17 of repression on women, 11 of murder, 11 are of clash related and 163 other cases.

Two pipe guns recovered

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, July 14: Two pipe guns and two rounds of bullets were recovered in village Dhiru of Nikli thana recently.

A police team led by ASI Moazzem Hossain Khan acting on a tip-off recovered the arms from a pond side bush.

Body of teen recovered

From Our Correspondent

FARIDPUR, July 14: Kotwali police recovered a dead body of a teenage boy from a jute field at village Tepurakandi in Kotwali thana recently.

The victim was identified as Muzaffar, 15, son of late Hafizur Rahman of the village. Previous enmity is reported to be the cause of the murder. Some of his friends called him from his house on June 28, but he did not return since his departure from the house.

Farzana wants to be a barrister

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, July 14: Farzana Mannan Barna of Chittagong Mohila Samity School secured the 16th position in the combined merit list of Humanities group in this year's Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examination under Chittagong Board.

She wants to take Bar-at-Law degree in future. She has obtained 791 marks with letter marks in Mathematics, Economics and Accounting. She is the daughter of Abdul Mannan, Assistant Police Super (ASP) of Satkhira and Fatema Mannan.



Palash Pourasabha budget

NARSINGDI, July 14: Palash Pourasabha has announced a budget of Taka 1,84,86,196 for the year 1999-2000, reports BSS. Pourasabha administrator Shah Elias announced the budget recently at a meeting held at the pourasabha auditorium. Palash thana headquarters has been made a pourasabha in 1998.

Classes suspended

FARIDPUR, July 14: Classes of Abdur Rouf Degree College at Kamarkhali remained suspended for the last few days following looting of cash at gun point and ransacking the college by a group of muslemen, reports UNB.

The incident took place recently as the college authorities announced appointment of a lecturer who stood first in the interview. But Zakir Hossain Molla, a lecturer in another college and resident of Kamarkhali, who stood second in the interview mobilised muslemen who raided the college, looted the cash at gun point, ransacked it.

Massive 'Aman' farming

RANGPUR, July 14: A total of 10,44 lakh hectares of land in eight northern districts of Rangpur zone have been brought under 'aman' cultivation in the current season, fixing the output target at 19,76,700 mts, reports UNB.

The districtwise break-up of lands is: Rangpur-1,43,090 hectares, Gaibandha-1,04,555, Kurigram-1,12,240, Lalmonirhat-93,570, Nilphamari-1,10,440, Dinajpur-2,49,160, Thakurgaon-1,20,910 and Panchagarh-1,09,170 hectares.

Pry dropouts on rise

JOYPURHAT, July 14: When the government is striving to give a boost to its literacy programme, only 91 per cent children enrolled in primary schools of the district this year against the target of 95 per cent, reports UNB.

Official sources said there are about 1,23,732 school going children in the district. Of them, 1,13,733 enrolled in various primary schools.

Literacy drive in Pabna

PABNA, July 14: An ambitious literacy drive will be launched on July 15 in 19 thanas where nearly 40 per cent of the population has no knowledge of letter, reports UNB.

The project, Pradipita Pabna, at a cost of about Tk 11.62 crore was aimed at imparting knowledge of writing and reading to all. A survey showed 7,50,659 people out of the total population of 19,19,896 in nine thanas are illiterate. In the first phase of the project, five thanas are being taken up to educate 3,90,624 men and women. The thanas are: Pabna Sadar, Iswardi, Sujanagar, Bhangura and Faridpur.

Uplift work progressing

MADRIPUR, July 14: The work on 469 rural infrastructure development projects taken up in the 1998-1999 fiscal year here is going on in full swing, an official source said, reports BSS.

The Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation sanctioned 2,200 tons of wheat for implementation of the projects. Several thousands rural poor, both male and female, have been engaged in the work of these projects in the rural areas of four thanas and in three pourasabhas here.

Community clinics in Chhagalnaiya

CHHAGAL NAIYA, (Feni) July 14: A total of 10 community clinics will be set up in five unions of the thana to provide health, medicare facilities and family planning service to the people of rural areas in phases, reports BSS.

According to an official source, as part of the countrywide programme community clinics will be started soon in each villages for six thousand people.

Phensidyl seized: Man held

MEHERPUR, July 14: The Detective Branch of police arrested one person and seized 45 bottles of phensidyl from his possession from Motpara area of the town, police said, reports BSS.

Acting on a tip-off the Detective Police raided a house in the area and arrested Moslem with contraband phensidyl syrup.



New trap: Ghunirs have flooded the markets of Magura. It is very popular for catching fish-fries in the rainy season. — Star photo

Flood situation in Ctg improves

From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, July 14: Flood situation has improved here on Tuesday as flood waters started receding with the cessation of rainfall from Monday night, administration sources said.

The rain waters which caused water logging in most of the low lying areas of the city have already receded, witnesses said.

However, in Chittagong district four thana areas including Raozan, Fatikchhari, Hathazari and Mirsharai came under flood due to incessant rains on Sunday and Monday.

Those areas were flooded for the second time within a month. Meanwhile, roads and culverts were worst affected in those areas.

In some of the low lying areas in Raozan and Fatikchhari most of the kutcha roads and culverts were damaged causing severe problem to traffic movement.

Two killed in N'ganj road accident

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, July 14: Two people were killed and 10 others injured, two of them seriously, when a Dhaka bound minibus coming from Narayanganj hit a standing flower-laden truck from the opposite direction at Kuripara in Siddhirganj thana on Dhaka-Narayanganj link road at about 11:45pm recently.

Police and witnesses said, the accident took place when the driver of the minibus lost control over the vehicle and hit the standing truck on the road, leaving two passengers dead on the spot.

The victims were identified as Abdur Rahman, 50, and Selim, 35. Two of the injured were rushed the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where attending doctors stated their condition to be critical. Others were released after first-aid from Narayanganj Hospital.

The minibus and truck were badly damaged in the collision. Traffic came to a halt for about two hours on the Dhaka-Narayanganj link road, following the road accident.

Police seized the minibus and truck. Drivers and helpers of the bus and the truck left the scene immediately after the incident.

The dead bodies were sent to Narayanganj General Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Uplift schemes abandoned in Netrakona

From Our Correspondent

NETRAKONA, July 14: Different development projects, under taken by Facilities Department of the government, in the district have been left abandoned.

The department undertook ten project at a cost of Tk 2,41,90,000 in the year 1997-98 for the development of ten educational institutions in the district.

The educational institutions included five high schools, two senior madrasas, religious schools, and three colleges. But all the development work have been left unfinished.

The contractors of the department alleged that they did not get their bills cleared due to shortage of fund.

Woman killed in village clash

From Our Correspondent

GOPALGANJ, July 14: A woman was killed and at least 10 people were injured in a clash between two rivals at village Chartala under Gopalgonj Sadar thana recently.

The two rivals locked in the clash over a petty incident, claiming the life of one Marzina Begum.

A rival group led by one Wadud Sheikh raided the house of one Rokonuddin Mia to recover a cow which was seized by Mia family while grazing in a paddy field owned by the family on June 22, triggering the clash.

During the clash Marzina Begum, 35, daughter of Rokonuddin Mia received injury and died on the spot.

A case was registered with Gopalgonj police in this connection.

Youngman killed in Rajshahi road accident

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, July 14: One youngman was killed in a road accident in front of Rajshahi College in Boalia thana here on Tuesday noon.

The victim identified as Shahjahan Ali Sazu, 24, of local Kaziraha area in the city.

Police sources said, the road accident occurred when a speeding truck ran over the youngman while he was crossing the road. He succumbed to his injuries on way to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH).

Boy crushed under wheels of truck

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, July 14: An eight-year-old boy was crushed to death on the spot under the wheels of a Chaudanga bound speeding truck on Friday afternoon.

Police said, Prothab, a student of village Gopinathpur in sadar thana was crossing the road in the afternoon when a numberless truck from Jhenidah crushed him near Jhenidah TV relay centre. The driver managed to flee.

Erosion threatens CIP dam, Haimchar thana

From Shirin Akhter



Meghna's toll: Erosion at Akhenerhat, Haimchar, Chandpur continues unabated. Bamboo, twigs, bricks and textiles are being used in an effort to contain the onslaught (left). — Star photo

CHANDPUR, July 14: Erosion of the river Meghna has treated the existence of Taka 100-crore Chandpur Irrigation Project (CIP) at Haimchar thana.

According to Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) here, about 10 kilometres area starting from Tajkharkandi to Akhenerhat has been seriously affected.

Erosion in the area has been continuing alarmingly causing serious damage to property. With the advent of the rainy season the Meghna river at Haimchar turned furious during the last few days. The strong currents along with high waves and gusty winds hit the bank in the area.

CIP embankment now stands within 50 metres of the bank of the Meghna river.

This is the third alternative embankment of CIP. The original embankment was eroded in 1988 and second alternative embankment was eroded in 1998. The third alternative embankment (present one) was constructed last year at a cost of Taka 10 crore.

The erosion is not only threatening the CIP embankment but it also eats the existence of the thana headquarters which was established in 1976. Haimchar thana consists of six unions namely Haimchar, Gazipur, Uljee north, Uljee south, Char Gazabari and Nilkamal.

About 80 per cent area of Haimchar thana have been devoured during the last few years. In 1988 the erosion of the Meghna devoured the 200-year-old Haimcharbazaar and the whole thana complex including the government offices, hospital, telephone house and several educational institutions.

As a result a new thana headquarters was established at Kalikhola area. A large

number of erosion victims have taken shelter in different parts of the country. About 30 thousand rootless people have taken shelter on the CIP embankment.

These rootless people have been leaving in a sub-human condition now in the area. No effort has been made to rehabilitate the rootless people. Some non-governmental organisations (NGOs) including Salvation Army have extended their help for rehabilitation of 5,000 rootless people. They have taken shelter in and around the railway

area will be inundated and crops and property worth about Taka 1000 crore will be damaged. About 10 lakh people of Chandpur, Faridganj and Haimchar thanas of Chandpur district and Raipur, Ramganj and Laximpur thanas of Laximpur district will be affected. These areas are now protected by 90-kilometre long CIP embankment.

Earlier report says: About 90 per cent works of CIP embankment have been completed.

According to BWDB, Chandpur office sources government sanctioned Taka 5 crore to implement the project during the financial year 1998-99.

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