

News snaps

Girl gangraped

From Our Correspondent

NATORE, July 31: Some miscreants gangraped a 15-year-old girl at Krishnapurdiha village in sadar thana recently.

Police said, the miscreants kidnapped the girl from her house, took her away in a nearby cropfield and raped her one after another.

Abducted school girl rescued

From Our Correspondent

MYMENSINGH, July 31: Bhaluka police rescued a school girl within 18 hours of her abduction recently.

According to police, Dulena Begum, 12, a student of Hasibari Sonarbanga High School, daughter of Dulal Mia of village Laban Kova in Bhaluka thana was abducted from her house on June 29, at about 11 pm. Immediately, a case was lodged with Bhaluka thana accusing Azizul Hoque, son of Abdul Khaleque of the same village for his alleged involvement in the abduction. Police rescued Dulena from the house of Shamsuddin, a relative of Azizul on June 30. Police also arrested Azizul.

Separate incidents claim two lives

PATUAKHALI, July 31: Two people were killed in separate incidents here on Tuesday, reports UNB.

Police said Shahidul Mirdha, 30, of Sadar thana was killed in a traffic mishap at the district ferryghat. In another incident, Abdul Karim, 20, of Kalapara thana allegedly committed suicide by hanging himself with rope at their residence.

Indian onions seized

JOYPURHAT, July 31: BDR jawans seized 4,450 kgs of Indian onions worth about Taka one lakh from Jitpur area on Wednesday night, reports UNB.

Acting on a tip-off, the BDR men intercepted a truck on Mongolbari-Dhamurhat road in Jitpur and recovered the onions. Witnesses said the smugglers in a bid to snatch the onions put up barricade on the road with the help of some local people, but the BDR men foiled their attempt. The haul was deposited with the local Customs office.

Fund shortage hampers project work

GOPALGANJ, July 31: Implementation of a child home project, involving Taka 80 lakh, is being delayed for lack of fund, reports UNB.

Officials said the fund, which was allocated by Public Works Department for construction of four-storied building of the project on the bank of the Matamuhuri river, has been diverted to another project. When contacted PWD Executive Engineer said it would not be possible to implement the project if fresh fund was not allocated.

Two dacoits awarded jail term

TANGAIL, July 31: A court here on Thursday convicted two men and sentenced them to 10 years' imprisonment in a dacoity case, reports UNB.

The court also fined the convicts — Julhash alias Julu Khan of sadar thana and Darbesh Ali of Mirzapur thana — Tk 5,000 each, in default, to suffer six months' more in jail. According to prosecution, the convicts along with their accomplices entered into the house of Nitai Chandra Saha at Karatipara in sadar thana at dead of night on November 18, 1993 and looted goods worth about Tk 82,000. After examining records and witnesses, the judge punished the two and acquitted 12 others.

JP leaders, workers resign en masse

BHOLA, July 31: A section of Jatiya Party (JP) leaders and workers have resigned en masse protesting what they said the party's anti-people and destructive activities, reports UNB.

President of JP sadar thana unit Muhammad Sadeq, general secretary Muhammad Shafi, president and general secretary of the pourasabha unit Azzul Huq and Muhammad Senu and district unit general secretary of Sramik Party, a front organisation of JP, Amirul Huq Chowdhury were learnt to have submitted their resignation letters. A large number of JP workers of the municipality area also deserted the party, JP sources said.

Girl raped

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA July 31: A girl was raped at village Assassuni in Assassuni thana on July 2.

Police sources said that the victim had been going to a nearby vegetables field of her house when Abdus Sabur of the same village took her forcibly to a nearby bush and raped her.

Body exhumed

From Our Correspondent

JAMALPUR, July 31: Body of young girl was exhumed after 65 days of her demise recently.

Following a complaint by the deceased's father the body was exhumed in presence of magistrate Mir Nazrul Islam. Lipi Begum, 16, daughter of Rezabuddoula of village Kangalakurisa in Malenda thana died at Malenda Hospital on April 28. She got admitted there with complaints of abdominal pain and enteric fever. Later on she was buried by her relatives. Subsequently her father complained that his daughter had been poisoned to death.

Gets primary scholarship

From Our Correspondent

FARIDPUR, July 31: Farhana Shahrin Khan got talent pool scholarship from Faridpur PTI school at the primary scholarship examination held in 1998.

Farhana Shahrin Khan is the daughter of school teacher Hosneara Begum and Md Shahjahan Khan, a businessman of the town.

Installation ceremony

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, July 31: Installation ceremony of the newly elected chairman and commissioners of Kishoreganj Pourasabha was held recently. A function was arranged in the Kishoreganj premises with Md Nurul Islam in the chair. Md Zillur Rahman, Minister for Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives attended the function as the chief guest while advocate Md Abdul Hamid, Deputy Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad, AKM Shamsul Haque, MP and Syed Ashraful Islam, MP were special guests.

Terrorist rearrested

From Our Correspondent

KUSHTIA, July 31: A notorious terrorist was rearrested recently by Mirpur police from village Pearpur in Daulatpur thana.

Shah Alam, the notorious terrorist was arrested on March 2 this year on charge of murder, dacoity and other arms cases. He was kept in Kushtia General Hospital under police custody. But he fled away from Kushtia General Hospital on March 3. Afterwards Mirpur police rearrested him from the house of Tobjel the aforementioned village.

Two housewives killed by husbands

Two persons allegedly committed suicide on Saturday and Sunday in Satkhira and Joydhuli thanas on Friday, reports UNB.

In Satkhira: A young housewife allegedly committed suicide by taking poison at Khatabari in Kalaroa thana on Saturday.

Quoting her family members police said Rehana Parveen, 22, wife of Abul Hossain of the area, took her own life having failed to endure the torture by her husband.

In Joydhuli: A young man allegedly committed suicide over a family feud at Dogachini village in sadar thana on Sunday.

Villagers said Mir Alam, 23, took pesticide after a brawl with his family members over a trifling matter.

In another incident, Hosneara, 20, lost her life protesting the immoral act of her husband Wakil Uddin of Gabulua village in Monirampur thana.

338 killed in 38 train accidents in Rly western zone in 27 years

JESSORE, July 31: Some 338 people were killed and 200 others wounded in an accident near the Hili border in Dinajpur district in 1993.

The same year, six people were killed and 20 others injured in a collision between a mail train and a passenger bus at Bhanga gate in Jessor district.

Eleven passengers were killed and 50 others hurt in a train accident in Shiddhir station in 1972.

Thirteen people were killed and 50 others injured in a head-on collision between a passenger bus and an express train at a level crossing near Mobaraganj railway station in 1975.

Forty passengers died when a Rocktel mail train derailed near Chittagong in 1986.

At least 36 passengers burnt to death and 50 others were injured when Simanta Express caught fire between Mirpur and Bheramara in Kushtia district in 1992.

Besides, 30 more accidents occurred in the western zone during the period that left 50 people killed and more than 200 others injured.

Another report from Lalmonirhat says: Ten more passenger trains of Bangladesh Railway's western zone have been put under private management in a bid to increase the sagging revenue income.

The Dhaka-based lessee — Islam Ship Builders and Heavy Engineering — will run the trains under its management from August 15.

Earlier, all tender formalities were completed in Dhaka and Rajshahi on July 21.

A competent source at the Lalmonirhat Divisional Railway office said the authorities expect to earn three times more than its present income from 10 trains by handing over their management in the private sector.

Uttar Banga Mail train (7-Up Dinajpur-Dhaka and 8-down Dhaka-Dinajpur) — monthly contract value Tk 8.10 lakh; Bogra Express (19-Up Santahar-Dhaka and 20-Down Dhaka-

Santahar) — Tk 5.40 lakh; 491-Up Santahar-Bonarpur Local and 492-Down Bonarpur-Santahar — Tk 3.54 lakh.

Four trains — 27-Up Parbatipur-Chilahati, 28-Down Chilahati-Parbatipur, 23-Down Parbatipur-Khulna and 24-Down Khulna-Parbatipur — have been leased out at Tk 18 lakh per month.

The source said the trains would be handed over to the contractors by August 15.

With these 10 trains, a total of 14 trains in the Western Zone have been given on contract to private management.

The authorities earlier leased out four trains that run between Santahar and Lalmonirhat as "Padmarnagh Express".

Passengers said services of the trains run under private management are better than the government-run trains and they reach the destination on time.

Mita killing

Proper investigation demanded

From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY, July 31: Students of the varsity demanded proper investigation into the killing of Sabina Yasmin Mita, a 3rd year student of Botany Department, and exemplary punishment to killers.

The students, under the banner of general students, in a press conference held at the central cafeteria on the campus, also criticised the slow pace of investigation.

Sabina Yasmin Mita was found dead in the room number 9 of the Karmajibi Mahila Hostel in the city on July 5. Two people were arrested in this connection.

Students also demanded Shimul, the main accused and friend of Mita, be barred from taking part in the third year honours examinations from safe custody.

Meanwhile, the general students recently submitted a memorandum to the home minister through the vice chancellor demanding the trial of the killers.

Earlier, they brought out a protest procession on the campus. A large number of students, both male and female, joined the procession.

Mystery shrouds over death of lady

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, July 31: Mystery has shrouded over the death of a technical trainer of the Department of Social Welfare of Naogaon district.

According to eyewitnesses, Khadija Begum Popy, 27, died mysteriously on Wednesday night. The young lady was residing in Chakderpara area in Naogaon town. Local people found the door of her bed room shut down till Thursday noon. Afterwards they informed police. Then police from local thana rushed to the spot and entered into the room and recovered the deadbody.

Kidnapped girl rescued

From A Correspondent

FENI, July 31: A kidnapped school girl was rescued from Kalidha under Sadar thana last week.

Kulsum, 14, daughter of one Alaudin of village Balukia under Sadar thana, was kidnapped on her way to school on May 5. Kulsum is student class XI in Sonapur High School.

Feni thana police rescued the girl and arrested one Bachu Mia in connection of the kidnap.

Three children drown in Chandpur

From Our Correspondent

CHANDPUR, July 31: Three children drowned here recently in two separate incidents.

A two-year-old child drowned in a pond in Haziganj thana. According to family sources, Billkis Akhter, daughter of Md Shahjahan, a school teacher, fell into a nearby pond of their house and drowned.

Two children drowned in a pond at Kachua thana. Ferdous, the three-year-old daughter of Anwar Hossain of village Kamarkasha in Kachua thana and Aslam, the two-year-old son of Md Kabul Hossain of the same village were playing nearly the pond and the victims fell into the pond and drowned.

Misuse of card phone at RU

From RU Correspondent

in the black market.

The practice also goes in the teachers club. The peons and guards of the club sell units in the same way to the teachers and guests there. Nobody protests the black practice.

They sell a 50 unit card at Tk 125 in stead of Tk 100, a 100-unit card at Tk 250 in stead of Tk 200, a 200-unit card at Tk 475-500 in stead of Tk 400. Besides, they sell per unit at Tk 2.5 in stead of the actual rate. It is also alleged that they intentionally make the machines faulty.

Meanwhile, there is no telephone facility in the students' dormitories on the campus. All the telephone sets are out of order in the residential halls. So the students face a great problem in communicating with others from their respective dormitories. Again, it becomes impossible to set up communication with the students from outside the campus.

Events of districts in picture



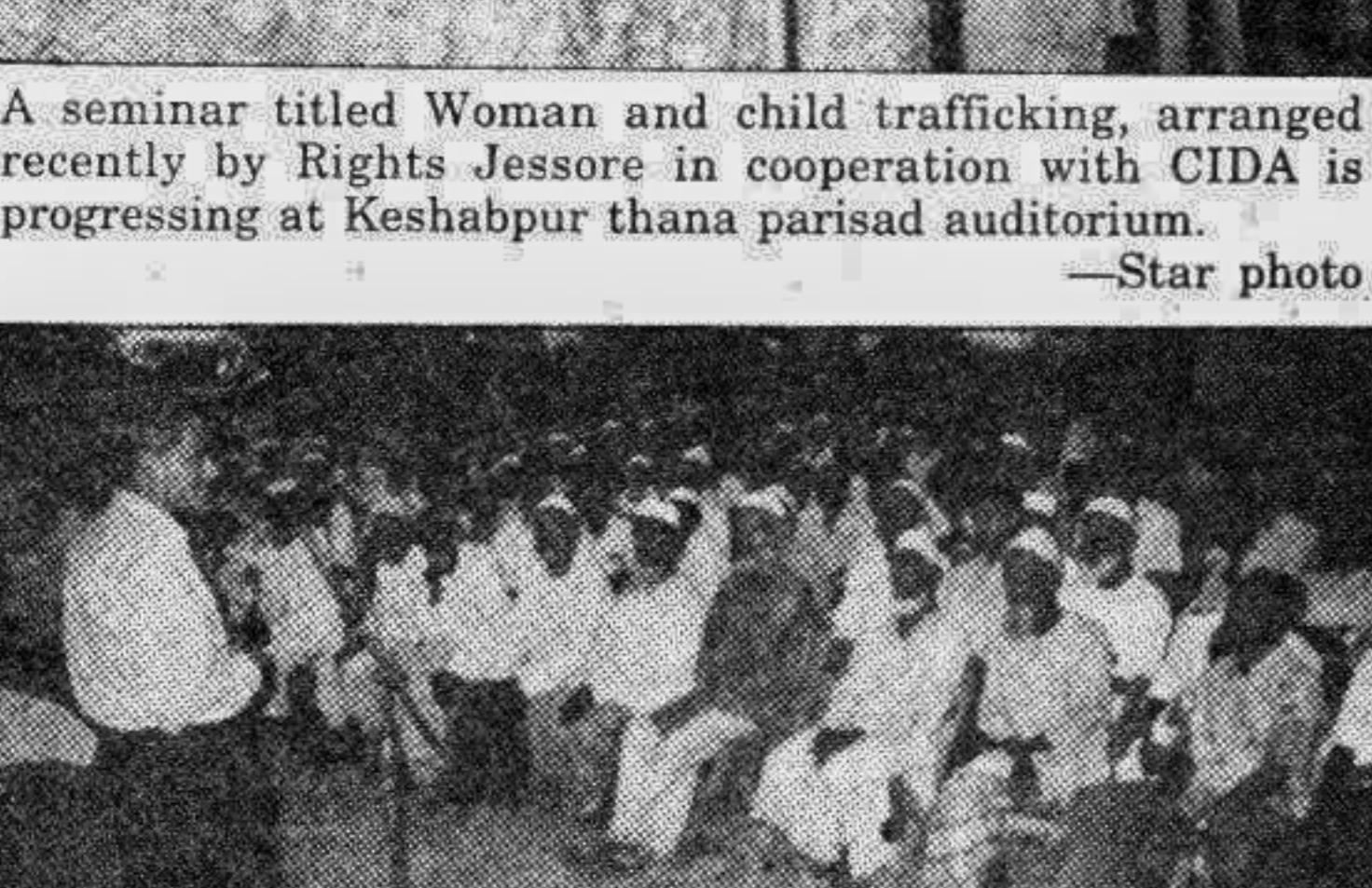
A discussion meeting was arranged on the occasion of the ongoing Fisheries Week '99 at the sadar thana parisad auditorium in Magura. Dr M S Akbar, MP addressing there.



A colourful rally by the Rotarians of Rotary Club of Mymensingh which they brought out recently in observance of their year launching programme, 1999-2000.



A seminar titled Woman and child trafficking, arranged recently by Rights Jessor in cooperation with CIDA is progressing at Keshabpur thana parisad auditorium.



Uplift works progressing in districts

Development works are progressing steadily in various districts, report agencies.

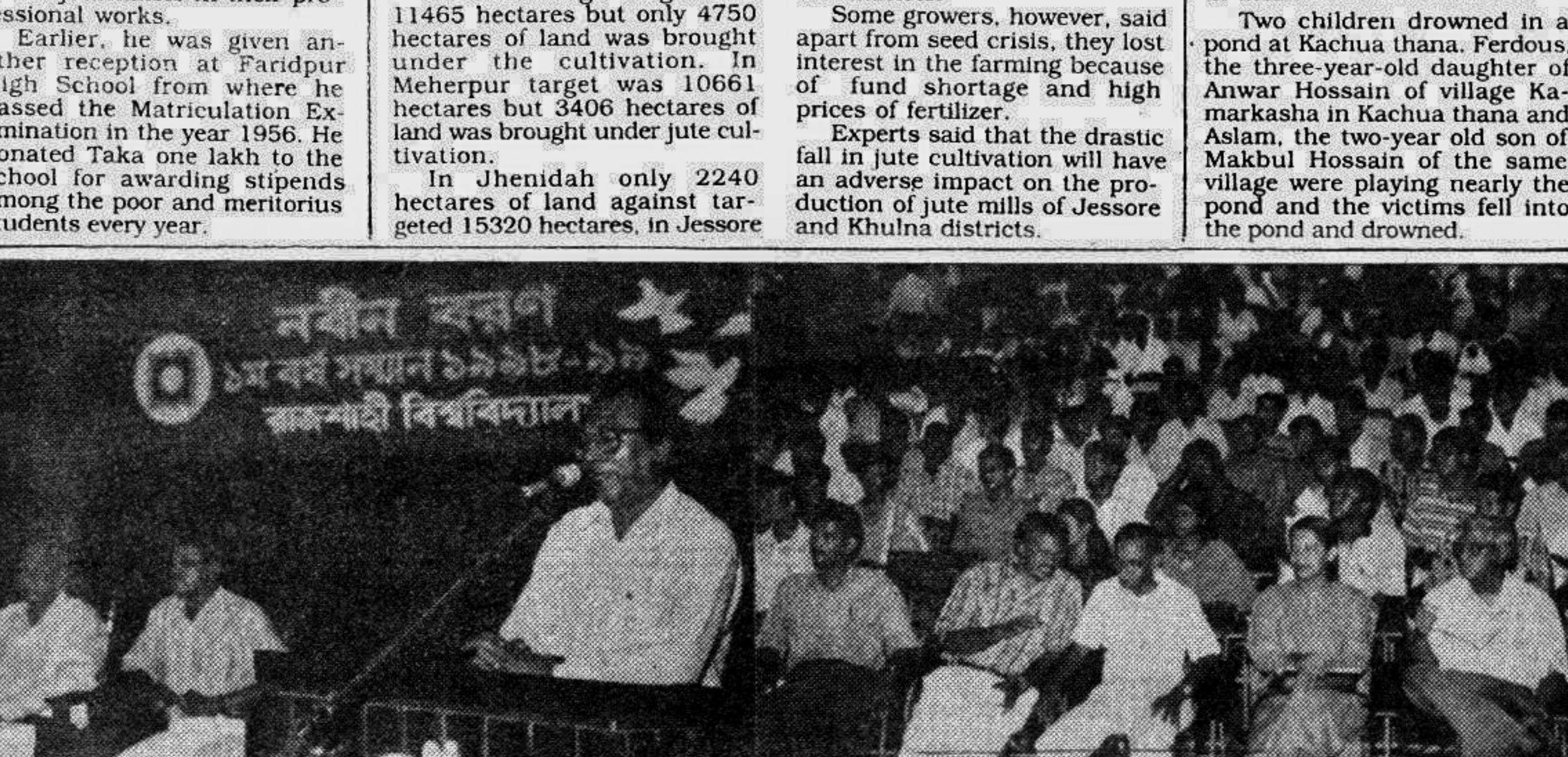
Pirojpur District Council implemented 25 development schemes during the fiscal 1998-99 spending Tk 65.60 lakh.

Officials said of the schemes 16 were implemented with the council's own funds while the rest with that of ADP.

The projects included construction and reconstruction of bridge, road pavement and renovation of bungalow and Union Parishad (UP) building.

In Feni: Execution of 38 projects was completed at a cost of Taka one crore and eight lakh by Feni Zilla Parishad during the last financial year.

According to an official source, the projects included construction and re-construction of village roads, passenger sheds and repair of Dak-bungalow.



Welcome freshers: Prof Abdul Khaleque, Vice-Chancellor of Rajshahi University addressing a fresher's reception function for the students of 1998-99 session at Kazi Nazrul Islam auditorium. Prof Sayeedur Rahman, Pro-VC also seen on the dais.

— Star photo