News snaps

Unabated hunting of deer

SATKHIRA, Sept 5: Although the Sundarbans has been recognised internationally as a world heritage site, illegal hunting of deer is continuing in connivance with a section of

dishonest forest employees, reports UNB.

The Forest Department has, however, geared up patrol against hunting of deer in the Sundarbans. Surveillance teams of the office recovered three hunted deer and seized a hunting boat from the Kalgia-Kalinchi River on Monday. The hunters managed to escape the scene.

Octogenarian killed

SATKHIRA. Sept 5: An octogenarian was crushed under the wheels of a speedy bus at Modabkathi on Satkhira-Jessore road on Monday, reports UNB.

Witnesses and police said the victim Ismail Hossain, 82, of Khatonda village of Sadar was run over by a bus coming from Jessore when he was crossing the road. Police recovered the body and sent to sadar hospital for autopsy. The bus was seized by the police, but the driver managed to flee.

Muktijoddah stage opens

SHERPUR, Sept 5: A Muktijoddah Stage in memory of 20 martyred liberation war heroes of Nalitabari thana in the district was inaugurated here on September 3 afternoon, reports

Deputy Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Saber Hossain Chowdhury is scheduled to inaugurate the stage near the Shahid Minar at Uttar Bazaar by unveiling the name plaque of 20 heroes of the frontier thana. Food and Agriculture Minister Begum Motia Chowdhury is likely to attend the function as the chief guest. The stage was constructed at a cost of Tk 55,000 with the active cooperation of Abdul Halim Ukil, a valiant freedom fighter and chairman of the newly established Nalitabari pourasabha.

Businessman robbed

FENI, Sept 5: A group of terrorists snatched away Tk one lakh from a businessman injuring him at Boktarmunshi Dakbanglow Bazar in Sonagazi thana on Saturday, reports UNB. Abdur Rouf Bhuiyan came under the attack of the gang when he was going to the town for buying goods for his shop at 9 am.

Teen commits suicide

FENI. Sept 5: A teenage boy of Chargram in Fulgazi thana allegedly committed suicide after getting the marriage news of his expatriated father on Friday, reports UNB.

The police said Abdul Motaleb Selim, 18, took poison on receiving information that his father Akhteruzzaman now staying in Pakistan entered in wedlock with a woman there. He was so mentally upset that he drank the poison. Selim was immediately rushed to Parshuram Hospital where he died at 10 pm. His mother Saleha Begum has gone half-mad at the tragedy.

Afforestation programme

NATORE, Sept 5: Forest Department produced some 2.55 lakh saplings in its six thana-level nurseries and sapling centres here this year, reports UNB.

Officials said about 64,000 saplings were sold till August 31, 1999. Meanwhile, the department has planted 4,900 saplings in 15 newly-built housing complexes under Asrayan Project here. Besides, 15 km roads and highways have been brought under its afforestation programme.

Couple arrested

MYMENSINGH, Sept 5: Police on Tuesday arrested a couple from Lun Hala village in Tarakanda thana in connection with the killing of their twin sons, reports UNB.

Police said they arrested Shahid and his wife Rehana for giving contradictory statements on the murder of their fouryear-old twin boys, whose bodies were found floating in a canal.

Poll proceedings stayed

NARSINGDI, Sept 5: The Sub-Judge court of Narsingdi on September 1 stayed all election proceedings of Bangladesh Samabaya Bank Limited until further order, court sources said, reports BSS.

The court also directed the defendants to show cause within seven days as to why the elections, scheduled on September 4, should not be postponed. The court issued the order upon hearing a prayer filed by a member of the bank Bina Pani Das alleging irregularities in the election process.

Foundation of medical centre laid MAGURA, Sept 5: Government has allocated Tk 12 lakh to construct a building for Hajipur Umeda Khatun Free Medical and Family Planning Centre in Sadar thana, reports UNB.

Local MP Prof Dr M S Akbar has recently laid the foundation stone of medical centre. The construction works on the Bhaban are progressing fairly well and expected to be completed by the yearend. Officials said local people would be able to receive family planning and medical services from the centre upon completion of the project.

Theft in Satkhira Bar office

SATKHIRA, Sept 5: A theft was committed in the office of District Bar Association recently, reports BSS.

According to police, the thieves entered into the office room of the Bar Association building cutting open the iron grill in the ground floor. They also broke the keys of steel almirah and table desk. The thieves stole court fees of Taka 60 thousand and Taka 3 lakh 21 thousand from the office.

Police arrested one Abdul Bari in this connection.

Monetary help for poor people KISHOREGANJ, Sept 5: Livestock Department, Kishoreganj, disbursed Taka 43,90,000 among 724 poor people in 13 thanas here to help them to buy necessary agricultural instruments and alleviate poverty, reports BSS.

According to the official sources, the amount was distributed under Poverty Alleviation Programme taken during 1996 to 1999. Poor farmers have already bought cows, bullocks and ploughs with the money to cultivate their fields properly.

273 businessmen sued BOGRA, Sept 5: At least 273 cases have been filed against 273

of businessmen here during the last five months, reports BSS. According to relevant sources, mobile courts conducted by Magistrate Ramijur Rahman detected the cases for violation of Shops and Establishment Rules in the town and suburbs. The magistrate filed 273 cases against the businessmen for such violation of rules. Besides, 40 businessmen were fined for keeping faulty balance and not using metric system of measurement. A total of 29 cases were filed for violating the existing law.

Police in dilemma

CHANDPUR, Sept 5: Police here are in dilemma with a 17year-old dumb girl and keeping her in their custody for about one and a half month as she could not give her home address. reports UNB.

Police said the girl could only write her name as Ruby and father's as Abu Bakar. Ruby, making gestures with her hands, indicated to police that she could only write the two names and nothing more. Police also got an indication from her that she was first brought to Chandpur by launch from Dhaka by some unknown people on July 19. And then she was taken to Hajiganj. Hajiganj thana police found Ruby wandering suspiciously. Later on they sent her to protective custody in district jail. The genuine guardian of the teenaged girl may contact Additional District Magistrate of Chandpur Mohammad Sirajul Islam.

Loans for youths

MAGURA, Sept 5: The district Youth Development office has distributed soft loans of Tk 4 lakh among 50 trained youths under the Poverty Alleviation Project during the last week of August, reports UNB.

Officials said the youths were imparted training in animal husbandry, farming, fish farming, cow fattening, afforestation and nursery.

7-yr RI for 2 abductors

HABIGANJ, Sept 5: A court here has convicted two people and sentenced them to seven years' rigorous imprisonment for abducting a college girl, reports UNB.

Abdul Hye and Chan Mia of Tungeswar village in Bahubal thana were also fined Tk 10,000 each, in default to suffer another 15 days in prison. According to the prosecution case, the convicted people abducted Rupali Bhattacharya from her residence in the same village on October 28, 1991. Police rescued her on the following day and had submitted charge sheet against seven people. After examining records and witnesses, Additional District and Sessions Judge Mohammad Miauddin on August 24 awarded punishment to the two people and constituted August 24 awarded punishment to the two people and acquitted five others.

Erosion renders 15,000 homeless in Pabna

From Ranesh Maitra

PABNA, Sept 5: Erosion by the river Jamuna has taken serious turn in greater Pabna district in recent days, rendering over 15,000 people homeless and devouring over 20,000 houses and other establishments.

Water level in the Jamuna continued to rise in the last week, inundating more areas, including arable land, in 15 thanas under the greater dis-

Homeless men, women and children are taking shelters on the high lands, flood-control embankments and in school buildings, union board office premises.

Affected villages are Rehai. Kanlia, Muradpur, Dhalai Shakpal, Doshshika, Mandalbhog, and Langalmura under Chouhali thana; Mantala, Mulkandi, Boirarchar,

Thakurpara and Katanga under Belkuchi thana; Brihatkora,

Barapadia, Dhitpur and Gopalpur under Shahzadpur thana; Pechakhola, Mohanganj, Nakalia, Harirampur, Singhasan, Boramara Kalyanpur, Raghunathpur and Bulan-dar under Bera thana.

Besides, Nazirganj and Satbaria unions under Sujanagar thana; Dhalarchar union under Bera thana have been completely inundated while and Masumdai union under Bera thana has been affected par-

Gopalpur Government Primary School has been devoured recently by the erosion.

Demra union of Faridpur thana and Nag Demra union of Santhia thana have been inundated. At least three unions under Bhangoora thana and four unions under Chatrmohar thana have also been sub-

Erosion by the river Padma also has taken serious turn in Ishwardi, Pabna Sadar and Sujanagar thanas. At least 15 unions under these three thanas have been severely affected by the flood and erosion.

District relief and rehabilitation officials told this correspondent over telephone that 50 metric tons of rice and Tk 60,000 had been sanctioned by the Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation for 35 flood affected unions under seven thanas of Pabna district.

Besides, the district administration has already sanctioned ten metric tons of rice and Tk 10,000 each for Bera and Bhangoora thanas while five metric tons of rice and Tk 5,000 each for Pabna Sadar, Ishwardi, Chatmohar and Sujanagar thanas.



Joy of fishing: Rural boys enjoy the rainy season by fishing in ponds, canals and water bodies throughout the country. Picture shows some young people of village Vitashar in Magura sadar thana enjoying the game of angling. - Star photo

Altaf preserves potato thru' indigenous method

From Delwar Kabir

JHENIDAH, Sept 5: Huge quantity of potatoes may be preserved through indigenous method instead of using cold storages.

This method can save money of the farmers. It is easily

applicable even remote villages. Altaf Hossain, 34, a farmer of village Ganna in the sadar thana has applied this method of preserving potatoes recently at his village. Originally

he was a transport worker. He started farming potato on his 20 decimals of land in 1989 leaving his original fession. In this season he has been cultiva- Altaf Hossain's potato store. ting various

crops on 15 acres of land. When this correspondent visited his potato preserving store, he saw an store built with bamboo sticks under a kutcha house. He had built house whose length was 30 feet. It was

Pangs of a

young mother

sides of the store was fenced with Taka 460 to 480 per maund bamboo sticks so that the air during early period of harvesting. could enter into the store. But no He sent 860 maunds of potato for sunlight could enter into the preservation in cold storages in house. There he preserved 500 Jessore while he preserved maunds of potato in this season another 500 maunds in his locally which he had produced in his made storage. He got over Taka two lakh as

> his potato this season. He cultivated papya on six acres of land, brinzal on two acres chilly on two acres, banana on three acres and bamboo

on two acres of

benefit from

land. When contacted Abdur Rezzaque Bhuigan Deput Director (DD)

Department of -Star photo Agriculture Altaf further said that he had (DAE) of Jhenidah highly lauded

the initiative of Altaf Hossain "Other farmers, specially the potato farmers may follow his example for preservation o potato. This method may minimize their huge spending in preserving potato in cold storages", he said.

Valuables looted

From Our Correspondent JHENIDAH, Sept 5: Armedmen at a village allegedly looted valuables worth about Taka one lakh from village Boalia in Sailakupa thana recently.

Local people said, a gang of armedmen numbering 13 to 14 rushed to the house of late Adiluddin and tied members of the family with rope. They looted valuables on gun point and threatened the houseowner not to inform the matter to po-

Husband kills housewife

A newly married housewife of village Shibnagar in Kotchandpur thana was allegedly killed by her husband recently, according to family

Bilkis Khatun, 16, was married with Ali Hamja in June this year. Since marriage Ali Hamja started torturing his wife for bringing dowry from here father's house. They locked in quarrel frequently. On the fateful day Ali Hamja killed Bilkis by strangulating after a quarrel. Later on Hamja and his family members allegedly poured pesticides in her mouth.

Two raped

Two women including a teenager were allegedly raped in Jhenidah recently, according to police sources.

Aklima Khatun, 22, wife of Osman Ali of village Chorkole in Jhenidah thana was raped by a miscreant named Arsad Ali of the same village. The matter was informed to local village leaders and they were asked to settle the matter. But the innocent victim was deprived of judgement and was compelled to lodge a case with the local police.

According to another report Mousumi Rani, 9, a student of class three in Kanchannagar area in the town was allegedly raped by a carpenter named Akkas Ali recently, family sources said. Mousumi came to see here relations at Kanchannagar. She was alone there. Then the miscreant, Akkas Ali took the advantage.

45 hurt in clash At least 45 persons including children were injured in a village clash at village Piragati in

Sailakupa thana recently, ac-

cording local people. Two rival groups led by Siraj Biswas and Mazibar master faced each other with lethal weapons in the afternoon on the fateful day following previous enmity.

Injured Ayub, Gafur, Sabed Ali, Rais, Razzak, Nasir, Jahedul, Shahidul, Anis, Salam, Azizur, Sahidur, Akhtar Sadaruddin Mahatab, Mahidul, Fazlu, Motahar, Bazlu, Motahar, Oliar, Sentu Mollah, Gafur and Jakir were rushed to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital while others released after first aid. About 15 houses of both groups were damaged following the clash, local people said.

Tk 60,000 looted Miscreants allegedly looted

Taka 60 thousand after charging swords on a youngman at Kanchannagarpara in the town recently, police sources said. Family sources said, Shahidul Islam is a 'baor' man-

ager at Kapashatia. He was returning his home in the town at Kanchannagarpara with the sale proceeds of money from his village home at Hudakushobaria in Sailakupa thana. When he reached near his house, a group of miscreants at-tacked him. He was rushed to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital in a critical status.

Two children drown

Two children drowned in a

canal recently. They were identified as Selaiman, 9, and his cousing Rashed, 11, of Kanchanpur in the town. Solaiman read in class three in local Sence Organ High School while Rashed read in class six in Jhenidah Government High School. On the day of occurrence both Solaiman and Rashed went to the local Dingimara Khal to take bath alongwith some members of their family. But Solaiman and Rashed did not come back home on time. A little boy informed that Solaiman and Rashed drowned in the canal.

Arrest of newsman sparks protest in Rajshahi

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Sept 5: Local journalists laid siege to the office of the officer-in-charge of Boalia police station and staged a sit-in demonstration in front of the office on September 2, protesting the arrest of one of their colleagues. The journalist, however, was released later.

Golam Murtuja, Rajshahi correspondent of Bengali daily Muktakantha, was arrested from Sadar Hospital crossing in the city.

Four officers of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police intercepted Golam Murtuja in the area

Businessman robbed of Tk 1 lakh in Sylhet

From Staff Correspondent SYLHET, Sept 5: Armed muggers snatched taka one lakh from a businessman at noon in Ambarkhan area in the town recently. The young men riding on

motorbikes swooped on the businessman, Mashuk Miah. Miah was going to his business establishment at Barkatia Super Market after withdrawing money from Zindabazar branch of National Bank. The muggers stabbed him

and took away the money in presence of a large number of pedestrians.

A case has been lodged.

while he was going to the office of superintendent of police for collecting security pass for covering the Prime Minister's schedule visit to Rajshahi on

The officers ordered him to go to the thana with them. When Murtuja wanted to know the cause, they said that a high RMP official had ordered them to arrest him.

Hearing the news, more than 30 journalists rushed to the thana and demanded immediate release of Murtuja. Being refused, they staged sit-in demonstration. Later police released

Rajshahi City Press Club, Rajshahi Metropolitan Press Club and Rajshahi University Press Club condemned the inci-

Alleged terrorist caught red-handed SATKHIRA, Sept 5 : Public

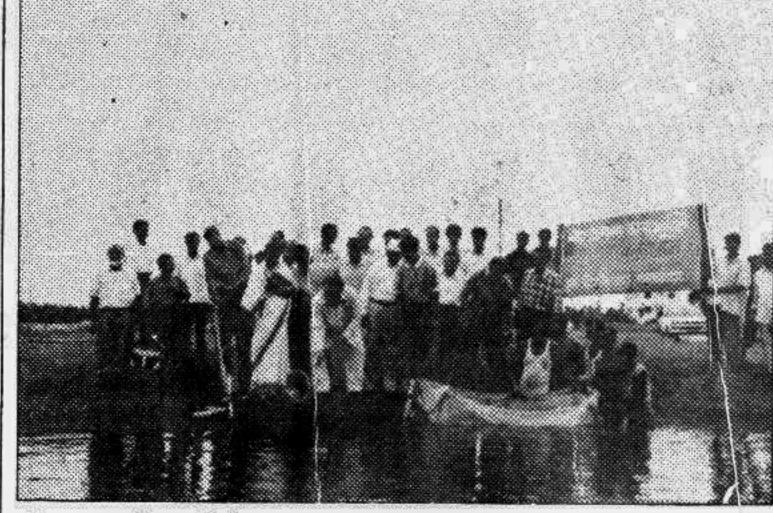
caught red-handed one alleged terrorist with a fire arm from Boicharia village under Sadar thana on Monday, reports BSS. Police said, the terrorist.

identified as Zakir Hossain Khan, 22, was moving suspiciously near the house of Abul Kashem Mondal of village Boichana with his two accomplices. Public at this stage caught him and recovered one shutter gun with one live cartridge from his possession.

Events of districts in picture



Remembering Bangabandhu: Mansur Ahmed Khan, convenor of the Rajshahi University unit of Muktijoddha Sangskritik Command speaking at a discussion meeting at Shaheed Smriti Sangrahashala at the campus on the occasion of National Mourning Day. -Star photo



Increasing fish resources: Prof Muhammad Hussain Vice-Chancellor of Bangladesh Agricultural University releasing fish fries recently in the fisheries farm pond of the university. -Star photo



Memo to DC: Local unit of Bangladesh College Teachers' Association submitting a memorandum to Faridpur DC recently seeking fulfilment of their various demands. -Star photo

constructed under a mango tree on a piece of his land. All the four

FENI. Sept 5: A young mother has lost her all chastity, husband and the only son - following six youngsters gangraped her in village Sun-

darpur on August 19, reports No complain was lodged with the police as the culprits known as members of Jubo League threatened of dire consequences if any case is filed

against them. Residents said the victim Rupdhan Bibl. 32, mother of four children was living at her father's house along with her husband since her marriage. On the night of August 19 the gangsters forced into her bed and

raped her in presence of hapless husband and children. Local Awami League leaders arranged an arbitration meeting on August 22 and fined the rapists Tk 15,000 along with two lashes by shoe. The victim was prevented from filing any

The six rapists fined for the misdeed are Abdul Mannan. Abul Khair, Zahir Ahmed, Abdul Kuddus, Amir Hossain and Amin Ahmed.

They did not pay the fine and threatened of defiling her again if pressed for payment of the The entire episode put the husband of Rupdhan Bibi to

shame. Ashamed and dis-

graced, the husband left the

village to unknown destination

with the only son leaving behind the wife and daughters destitute. Deputy Commissioner Debashish Nag admitted that the administration and police were

aware of the fact. Lightning kills two in Sirajganj

From A Correspondent SIRAJGANJ, Sept 5: Two persons were killed in lightning in Kamarkhanda thana on Monday evening.

while they were working in a crop field, killing them on the The victims are identified as Muhammad Musa ,27, of village Swalpo Mohammadpur and

Shukur Ali ,60, of village Jam-

The lightning hit the victims

Another report adds: A man was killed by his brother on the same day in Shahjadpur thana in the district. Police and witnesses said Abdul Matin ,50, of Shela

Chapri village was killed when

his younger brother Absar Ali

hit on his head with a bamboo

stick following an altercation. The body was sent to hospital for autopsy. Victim's son Babul Akhtar filed a case in this connection.

Suicide incidents up in Magura

From A Correspondent

MAGURA, Sept 5: Incidents of suicides have been increasing alarmingly in four thanas in the district. According to police sources.

cultivated potato on 22 bighas of

land and harvested about 1,650

maunds of potato during this

season. The average yield was 80

maunds per bigha. He also

informed that the maximum

production of potato was 150

maunds. He sold potato between

132 people committed suicide from Jannuary to 10th July this year. While 342 persons committed suicide in the previous year 1998. Thana-wise break-up of suicide incidents this year is as

follows: 75 persons in Magura Sadar thana, 26 in Sreepur, 18 in Shalikha and 13 in Mohammadpur thana. In 1998, 171 persons in Magura Sadar, 76 in Sreepur, 70 in Shalikha and 25 in Mo-

hammadpur committed suicide. Most of the persons who committed suicide in the year 1998 and 1999 in four thanas of the district are females. Our Gaibandha Correspon-

dent adds: Five people commit-

ted suicide recently in Sadulla-

pur thana in the district. On August 27 housewife

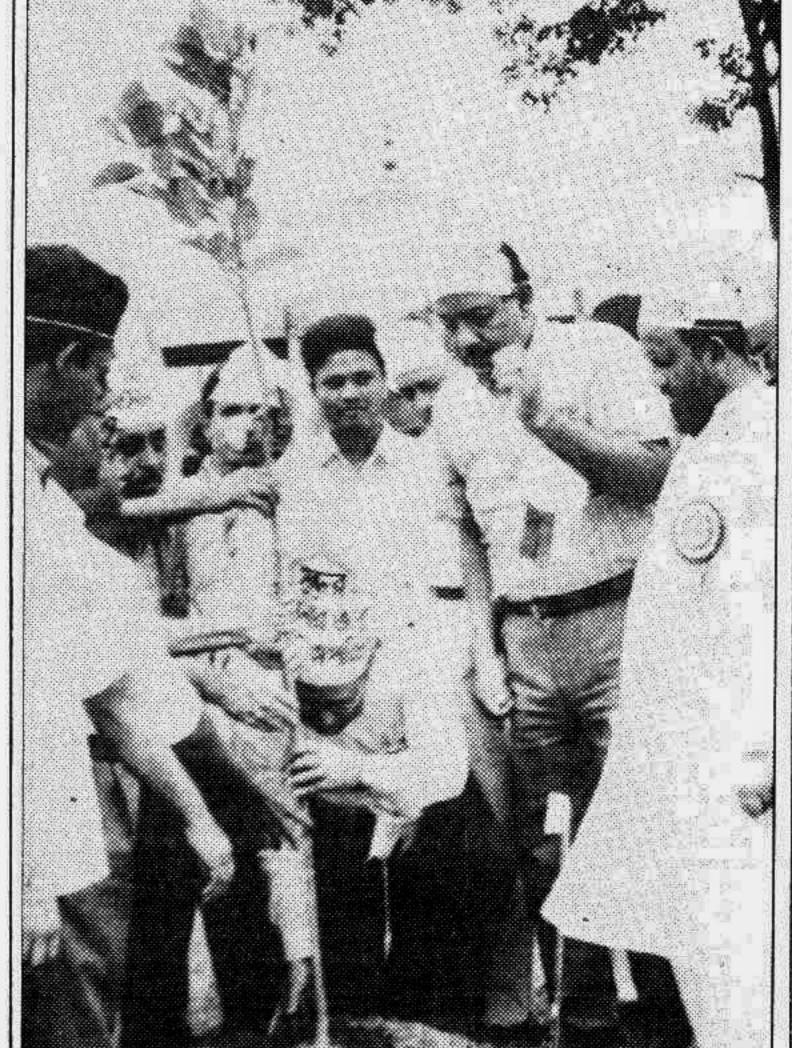
his wife.

Momena Begum ,22, of village Uttar Damodorepur committed suicide by taking pesticide. Family feud has been attributed to the suicide. Tipu Sultan ,28, of the same village committed suicide by

hanging himself with a tree on August 25. He was suffering from diseases for a long time. On August 23 Jaharul Islam .,25, of village Gopalpur com-mitted suicide by taking pesticide following a quarrel with

On August 25 Nazar Ali ,28, of village Sreekala committed suicide by taking pesticide. Montu Sarker of village Khadabaksh committed suicide

on the same day also by taking Separate unnatural death cases were filed with police.



Prof Muhammad Hussain, Vice-Chancellor of Bangladesh Agricultural University planting a sapling recently on the university campus. -Star photo