

## News snaps

### Discussion on National Poet

COMILLA, Sept 29: A discussion on the life and works of the national Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam organised by Comilla University was held on September 24 at the local KTCC campus, reports BSS.

The discussion was presided over by Prof Shamsul Huq, former Advisor to the Caretaker Government and vice-chancellor of Comilla University. Chairman of Nazrul Institute Prof Rafiqul Islam and Vice-Chancellor of the National University Prof. Amirul Islam Chowdhury, among others, discussed various aspects of the life and literature of the poet. The discussion was rounded off with a cultural function. Earlier a procession brought out by the teachers and students of Comilla University paraded the main thoroughfares of the town.

### Tk 23 lakh Indian goods seized

JOYPURHAT, Sept 29: Police in their separate raids seized Indian goods worth about Tk 23 lakh in last two days, reports UNB.

Acting on a tip-off, plainclothes police halted a truck at Birnagar on Panchbibi-Gobindaganj road and recovered Indian insecticides, ornaments, making machines, cosmetics, toys and knives from it on Saturday. Later on Sunday, police recovered 14 sacks of Indian sugar, 158 packets of cumin seeds and 23 bottles of horlies from a bus on Joypurhat-Bogra road. Police seized the bus and arrested its driver and helper. They were sent jail.

### Kidnapped girl rescued

NAOGAON, Sept 29: A kidnapped girl was rescued on Thursday from Tanka Shibpur village in Mahadevpur thana after her abduction, reports UNB.

Police said miscreants picked up Rekha Banu, 13, daughter of Abdul Khaleque, of Laxmanpur village, when she came out of their house to go to the outdoor toilet. On information, police raided the house of Razzak at Tanka Shibpur village in Mahadevpur thana and rescued the girl.

### Madhu Purnima celebrated

CORILLA, Sept 29: 'Madhu Purnima', one of the Buddhist religious festivals, was celebrated with due solemnity, reports BSS.

Various programmes were arranged on this occasion. The programmes included 'Buddha puja', 'Pindadan', 'Ashtashila' and 'Panchashil grahan', discussion meeting, 'Pradip puja', 'Modhulan' and prayer. Buddhist community celebrated the 'Modhu Purnima' at Comilla Kanakstup Buddha Vihar, Aishwar Shantiniketon Buddha Vihar, Baraigao Kanakchitya Buddha Vihar and all Buddhist temples.

### Girl raped

NARSINGDI, Sept 29: A girl was raped allegedly by a neighbour at Char Subaddi in Raipura thana here on Sunday evening, reports UNB.

Hospital sources said Monir Hossain 19, son of Anwar Hosain Anu of the same village took the girl of class II to a nearby bush and forcibly raped her. Monir left the place leaving the girl unconscious. Later on the family members found her in the bush and took her to the hospital. On return of her sense, the girl identified the rapist as Monir.



**Processing of golden fibre:** Farmers of Mymensingh district are engaged in processing jute fibre from the rotten sticks, while jute sticks are being dried up on the bank of a canal recently near village Char Gobindapur in the Sadar thana.

— Star photo

### Bridge in danger

NARAIL, Sept 29: Lack of maintenance has put an important wooden-bridge over Horiakhali canal in Sadar thana in danger, reports UNB.

Locals said some 10,000 people from Bahirgam, Korgram, Mulia, Nirali, Deybhog, Agdin, Shimul and Ramnagar cross the bridge everyday to reach the District headquarters and Noapara Bazar. Besides, there are five high schools and five primary schools in the area and students of these schools have to cross the bridge. The bridge, connecting Bhairab canal, was constructed only four years ago. Repeated appeals to the authorities by the locals for repairing the bridge went unheeded.

### New variety of lady's finger

TANGAIL, Sept 29: The Compartimental Pilot Project (CPP), Tangail has introduced cultivation of lady's finger 'Kharip-1' high yielding variety evolved by the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI) in its project area here in the current season, reports BSS.

A CPP source told the news agency the big size stalk of the plant can also be used as fuel. Selected farmers of the project area of CPP have been growing this vegetable from this year.

### Fake police arrested

MYMENSINGH, Sept 29: A fake police was arrested from a night coach at Tangail bus stand on Sunday, reports UNB.

Plainclothes police nabbed Abul Hossain, 40, of Dhaka, when he identified himself as the OC of Mymensingh DB police when the bus conductor demanded fare. Hossain confessed to the police that he had resorted to the trickery in an effort to avoid bus fare.



The foundation laying ceremony of a municipal market complex in Brahmanbaria was done recently by the local municipality chairman Md Helal Uddin.

— Star photo

### Training on soil management

MADRIPUR, Sept 29: A two-day training course on soil management and use of fertiliser for the block supervisors of the agriculture department was held in the auditorium of Sadar Upazila Parishad here last week, reports BSS.

Thirty block supervisors participated in the training course organised by the Agriculture Extension Department. Subject-matter specialist Md Salam conducted the training. The participants were acquainted with the knowledge of proportionate use of chemical fertiliser and manure according to the quality of the soil.

### Tk 16.28 cr loan for farmers

PROJIPUR, Sept 29: Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKB) will disburse a loan totaling Tk 16.28 crore among the farmers in the current fiscal, reports UNB.

The bank will disburse the loan through its 21 branches in six thanas. BKB officials said they have already begun the loan distribution programme and it would continue till June next year. Meanwhile, Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB) disbursed loan to the tune of Tk 6.84 crore during the last fiscal. The loan was distributed among BRDB's 6,973 members of its 3,973 samitis. They received the financial assistance for undertaking small programme like paddy crushing, cattle rearing, nursery, poultry farming and vegetable cultivation.

## Problems grip Met offices in N-region

RAJSHAHI, Sept 29: Meteorological offices in the northern region have been grappled with various problems, including shortage of necessary equipment and manpower, reports BSS.

The offices located in Rajshahi, Pabna, Bogra, Rangpur, Dinajpur and Nilphamari were operating with outmoded wireless and radio sets and teleprinters.

Besides, 20 posts of employees in the six meteorological offices have long been lying vacant, hampering important works, particularly during inclement weather.

As there is no regional office in the region, the officials also have to depend on the head office for many emergency decisions.

### Rain paralyses life in Faridpur

From Our Correspondent

FARIDPUR, Sept 29: Continuous rainfall for the last few days paralysed the normal life of the people.

Bank and business transaction were in doldrum, official works were also hampered. Day labourers who live from hand to mouth were the worst sufferers because of the rainfall as they could not sell their labours in spite of sitting hours together at labour markets in the town. They had to return to their houses without any food articles. Their family members were passing their days half-fed or unfed.

Low lying areas have been submerged destroying the standing crops. Lanes, by-lanes and low-lying areas of the town have gone under water causing untold sufferings to the pedestrains.

## Ru DIARY

### Rimu killing day observed

From RU Correspondent  
RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY, Sept 29: Bangladesh Chhatri Motri (BCM) observed here 'Rimu-killing' day on September 19.

On this day in 1994 Jubair Chowdhury Rimu, a maitre leader was murdered by the armed cadres of Islami Chhatri Shibir at Sher-e-Bangla hall. Hailing from Satkhira, the slain leader was a Management final year student.

Their programmes included placing of floral wreaths at the killing spot, wearing of black badges, protest rally demanding trial of killers and banning Jamaat-Shibir politics on the campus.

They also arranged a students' rally in front of the central library premises.

### Publication ceremony

The publication ceremony of 'Islamic Arthanit' was held on September 19 at the university Senate hall.

The book has been authored by M A Hamid, former Vice Chancellor (VC) of Islamic University.

Rajshahi University Vice-Chancellor Prof Sayeedur Rahman Khan was present as the chief guest. M A Mannan, the founding president of Social Investment Bank, and Prof Mohsin Ali, Dean of Social Science faculty were present as special guests. Prof Mosharrif Hossain, chairman of Economics department presided over the meeting.

Prof Moshin Ali delivered the welcome address. A large number of students, teachers, and journalists were present on the occasion. Prof M A Hamid in his speech mentioned the utility of the book among the students.

Later on five professors of Economics department reviewed the book. They are Tarik Saiful Islam, M Abdur Rahman, Muhammed Younis, S M Habibur Rahman and M Salimain Mondal.

### New chairperson of Library Sc Deptt

Rehana Islam has taken over the charge of the Department of Library and Information Science as its new chairman.

She took the responsibility from the outgoing chairman Prof Mohsin Ali, also the Dean of the Social Science faculty who was given the additional responsibility, according to the official sources.

She is the 7th chairman of the department since its inception during 1992-93 session.

However, after taking the charge the new chairperson vowed to help brighten the image of the department by making the department 'session jam free'.

She sought all out cooperation of her colleagues, students and officers of the department.

### Anti-smoking rally

An anti-smoking rally was brought out on the campus to create consciousness among the common people about the harms of smoking.

Arranged by Adhunik, an anti-smoking organisation, the rally was attended Vice-Chancellor (VC) Prof Sayeedur Rahman Khan and other high officials of the university.

The rally started from the Shahid Minar premises and paraded the main thoroughfares of the campus.

On this occasion, VC Prof Khan highly lauded the organ-

## National

# Flood damages standing crops on 39,649 hectares in Gaibandha

From K M Rezaul Hoque

GAIBANDHA, Sept 29: Standing crops on 39,649 hectares of land have been damaged completely by flood this year.

The assessment was conducted by the district Agriculture Extension Department (AED).

Crops like Transplanted Aman, Broadcast Aman, Aus, seedbeds of crops, sugarcane and other crops have been damaged completely.

According to district AED

under the flood a vast tract of lands in Gaibandha district went under water. As such

standing crops on the afore-

mentioned lands have been

damaged completely for long

standing stagnant water. All the seven thanas of the district have also been affected. Thana-wise break up is as follows:

Gaibandha sadar-6,665 hectares,

Sadullapur-6,565 hectares,

Shaghata-4,000 hectares,

Fulchari-2,862 hectares,

Palashdaganj-2,510 hectares,

Gobindaganj-10,200 hectares and

Sunderganj-6,358 hectares.

With a view to recouping the

loss of Aman crops AED has ar-

rang new Aman seedlings on

four acres of land from Nasipur

of Dinajpur, vegetables gardens of Rangpur and local seedbeds.

When contacted Abdul Aziz

Ferdous, Assistant Director of

AED told The Daily Star that

Aman seedlings on Four acres

of land have been disbursed

among the flood affected farm-

ers free of cost. The seedlings

will cover nearly 64 acres of

land.

Local farmers, however, opined that the seedlings sup-

plied by government had been

too meagre against the huge re-

quirement.

With a view to rehabilitating

the flood ravaged people the

government, in the mean time,

allocated 500 VGF cards in each

union and 4,498 cards in the

district for distribution among

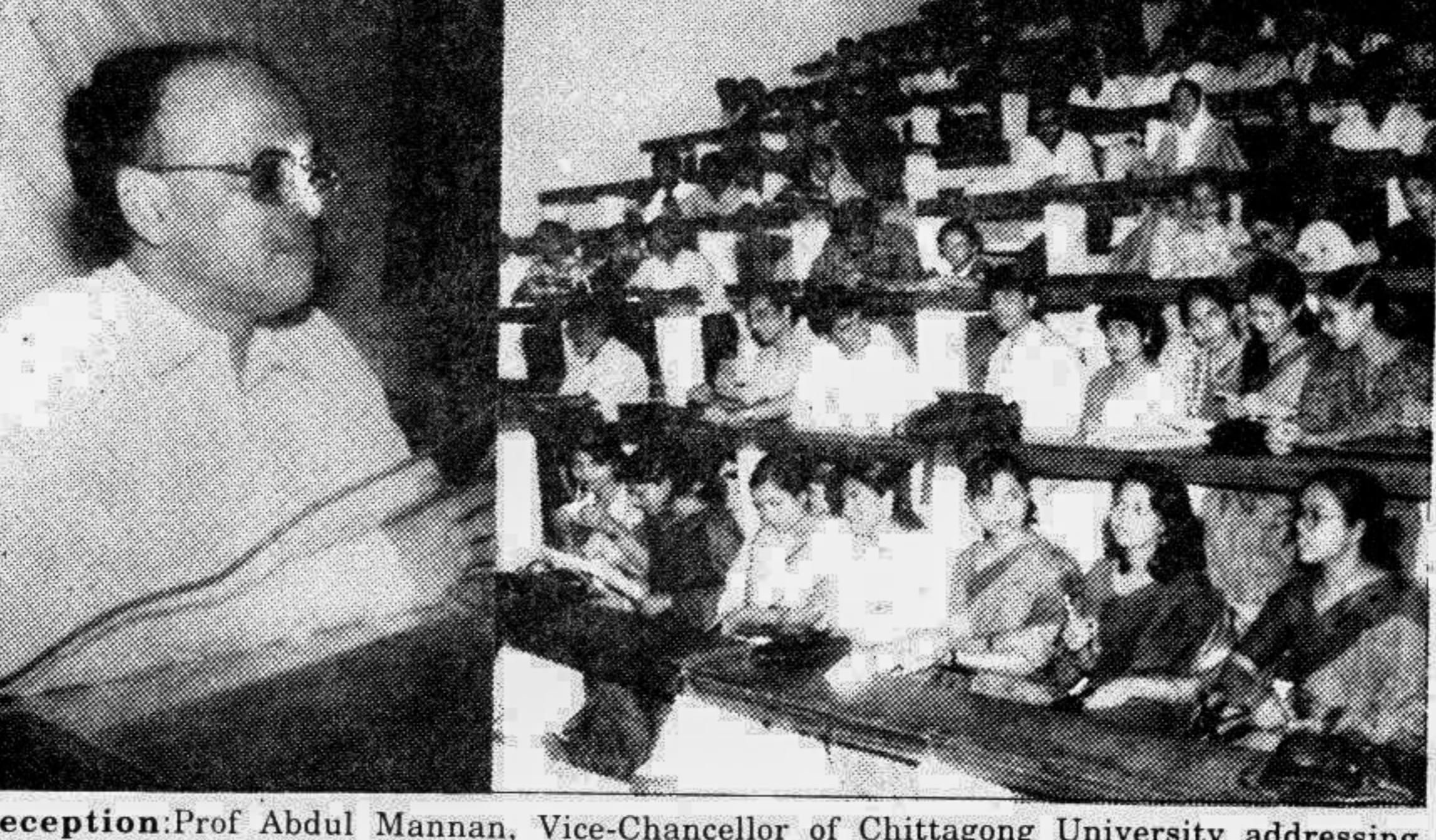
the flood and erosion victims.

The programme will continue

for the next three months and

each card holder will get 10 kg

of rice every month.



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