

News snaps

Rivals' clash leaves man dead

SIRAJGANJ, Nov 1: A clash between two rival groups of people at village Gopinathpur in Shahjapur thana left one person killed and 10 others injured on Saturday, reports UNB.

School bldgs' works completed

MAGURA, Nov 1: Repair and development works of 20 high school buildings in four thanas have been completed at a cost of Tk 12.60 lakh, reports UNB.

Valuables looted

JESSORE, Nov 1: Road pirates swooped on a night coach and looted the valuables of passengers on Jessore-Narail road near Humkura bridge early Sunday, reports UNB.

2 killed in road accidents

BAGERHAT, Nov 1: Two people, one of them a teacher, were killed in separate road accidents in Fakirhat and Kochua thana on Sunday-Saturday, reports UNB.

Flood damages Aus crops

COMILLA, Nov 1: Aus crops worth over Tk 50 crore were damaged due to flood and riverbank erosion in July last, reports UNB.

Raw hides being smuggled out

THAKURGAON, Nov 1: Raw hides were being smuggled out of the country to neighbouring India due to their low price at local markets, reports UNB.

Pry edn being hampered

KISHOREGANJ, Nov 1: Primary education is being hampered due to shortage of teachers, including headmasters, reports UNB.

Arrested criminal snatched

SIRAJGANJ, Nov 1: Miscreants swooped on police and snatched an arrested criminal from them at Charhalighuri in Sadar thana on Friday night, reports UNB.

Agri-loan disbursed

KISHOREGANJ, Nov 1: Kishoreganj regional office of Bangladesh Krishi Bank disbursed Taka 39,17,000.00 as agriculture loan among the farmers of 13 thanas here through its 20 branches till June 30 this year, reports BSS.

Two killed in road accident

COMILLA, Nov 1: Two persons were killed and another 10 injured in a road accident that took place on Saturday at Basantapur on Dhaka-Chittagong highway under Chowddagram upazila, reports BSS.

BKB loan disbursed

RAJBARI, Nov 1: Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKB) disbursed loan totaling Tk 2.25 crore among farmers in last three months, reports UNB.

Project to build school bldgs

RAJBARI, Nov 1: The government has taken up a project to construct buildings for 22 registered primary schools at a cost of Tk one crore in the current fiscal, reports UNB.

Loan for farmers

NETRAKONA, Nov 1: Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKB) has taken up a massive loan disbursement programme this season to boost farm output, reports UNB.

Man allegedly killed by son-in-law

THAKURGAON, Nov 1: A man was allegedly killed by his son-in-law in broad daylight at village Khalishkuni in the sadar upazila last week, police said, reports BSS.

Senior doctors observe Asthma can be controlled in healthy environment

From Abdul Wadud

RAJSHAHI, Nov 1: Asthma, a longlasting troublesome disease can be kept under control. But the patients and even most physicians are not well informed about the necessary measures.

Senior doctors have observed this while addressing the inaugural function of the Asthma Clinic in Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH) outdoor department.

Asthma Association, Rajshahi Medical college unit opened the clinic on October 25 morning. Col Mong Ten Win, Director of RMCH inaugurated the clinic.

The physicians observed and suggested that both the doctors and patients should be well-oriented on the issue. "Inhaler is a very fruitful measure in controlling Asthma and avoiding

adverse effects of oral medicines, but most patients have superstitions regarding it", they said and added some others, who are free of superstitions, do not know well how to use the inhaler.

Expressing grave concern over pollution of environment they said that the surroundings inside and outside the house should be pollution-free. "Pollution is very much responsible for Asthma and for aggravating the already established disease," they said.

They suggested to ensure passage of fresh air and light in the rooms, keep the living places free of dusts, immunise the children and avoid smoking and perfumes to decrease incidence and sufferings of Asthma.

Presided over by Prof Fazlur Rahman, head of the Department of Pathology of Rajshahi Medical College and

president of the Asthma Association, the function was addressed, among others, by Prof Khalilur Rahman, Head of the Department of Surgery, Prof M A Azhar, Head of the Department of Medicine, Assistant Professor in Medicine and general secretary of the Asthma Association Dr Qazi Tariqul Islam, senior consultant in Paediatrics Dr Iqbal Bari and senior consultant of Rajshahi TB Clinic and organising secretary of the Asthma Association Dr Wasim Hossain.

The clinic will remain open, for the time being, from 10 am to 12 am on every Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday. Specialist physicians will see the patients in exchange of Taka 10 only. The money will be deposited in the fund of the Asthma Clinic which will be spent for management of the clinic.



Hundreds of children around Bangladesh are being deprived of education due to abject poverty. They are engaged in different types of income generating activities to help their poor parents. Photo shows such an unfortunate boy in Rangpur selling Shapla which is widely used as a food item in rural Bangladesh. — Star photo

Rajshahi DIARY

11 alleged criminals arrested

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Nov 1: Metropolitan police arrested 11 alleged criminals on Monday last on various charges from different places in the city.

Rajpara thana police arrested five terrorists from Rajanigandha Hotel in Laxmipur crossing in the city. They were staying there forcefully without paying any fare. Being informed by the hotel authorities, police acted on and arrested them in a sudden drive.

They were identified as Kamal Hossain, Helal Ahmed and Rezaul Karim of Mirpur in Dhaka, Raquibul Hasan Polash of Bilshima in Rajshahi and Abdur Razzaque Sentu of Baharampur in Rajshahi.

Police suspected that the terrorists were planning to commit a crime, but did not elaborate any more.

A case was registered with Rajpara thana in this connection. The culprits were produced before the court and were sent to jail. Major Mearj Hile, Detective Branch of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police arrested three persons on the same night while they were taking illegal liquors.

Female worker raped

A female worker of a local silk factory was allegedly raped by two young people in Sopura in the city last Monday afternoon.

Arman and Duddus entered into the factory and raped her, the victim alleged in her statement of the case registered with Boalia thana. They could not be arrested till filing of this report.

Reception

DCC commissioners and officials of Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC) have accorded a reception to the visiting ward commissioners and officials of Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) at a function at the corporation's conference room on last Monday noon.

Under the Exchange Visit Programme, the DCC ward commissioners and officials visited the ongoing Urban Basic Service Delivery Projects of RCC.

Presided over by RCC Chief Executive Officer Mohammad Shahjahan, the function was also addressed, among others, by the chief medical officer Dr Rezi Sultan and ward commissioner Ansar Ali.

Arrest of killers demanded

Rajshahi city unit of the ruling party backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) brought out an agitation procession and held a protest rally on Monday last in the city to demand immediate arrest of the killers of Golam Murshid Golam.

Golam, a central committee member of BCL was killed on March 26 evening as a sequel to intra-party feud. The speakers at the rally observed that all terrorists, irrespective of their political affiliation, should be punished.

The rally was addressed, among others, by Naimul Huda Rana, president, Shahjahan Hossain Shafigue, president of Rajshahi University unit, Dablu Sarkar, organising secretary and Rokanuzzaman Rokan, publicity secretary of the city unit of BCL.

Insurance training course

A 10-day long under writing training course on insurance was held recently at Rajshahi regional office of Bangladesh Jiban Bima Corporation, Bangladesh Insurance Academy (BIA) organised the course.

A total of 18 officials of Jiban Bima Corporation (JBC) took part in the training course. Presided over by JBC manager M A Gaffar, the course was inaugurated by BIA director KM Murtuza Ali. JBC Rajshahi zonal manager B Shil was the special guest in the inaugural session.

Three pry teachers transferred

From Our Correspondent

MOULVI BAZAR, Nov 1: Three teachers of Bazaar Government Primary School in the town were transferred by an order of Director General (DG) of Primary Education Directorate in Dhaka.

Usually district primary education officer (DPEO) is the first authority to issue transfer order of primary school teachers. In the case of inter-district transfer, deputy director of Primary Education Department stationed in divisional headquarters takes decision relating to transfer of teachers.

However, a transfer order can be issued by the DG office in case of any allegation of wrongdoing against a teacher, subject to the recommendation by DPEO, official sources said. But in the case of Bazaar Government Primary School, three female teachers were transferred in August this year directly by the DG office in Dhaka. Even the DG office did not receive any recommendation from the DPEO of Moulvi Bazar regarding issuance of transfer order.

Reasons behind the transfer orders were not explained. When contacted the DPEO of Moulvi Bazar said as per official records maintained by the office there had been no complaint against the three female teachers. Earlier in August 1998 the three female teachers were transferred also by the DG office. The transfer orders were, however, cancelled following appeal by the managing committee of the school to officials concerned.

Events of districts in pictures



The visiting World Health Organisation (WHO) consultant Dr Popova speaking recently at a press conference at Sylhet Press Club in Sylhet. — Star photo



Rajshahi University Vice-Chancellor Prof Sayeedur Rahman Khan delivering his address as the chief guest at a farewell and freshers' reception ceremony held recently at Kazi Nazrul Islam auditorium on the university campus. — Star photo



A protest rally which was brought out recently in Rajshahi city demanded immediate release of Hafej Maolana Mufti Shahidul Islam, chairman of Al-Markajul Islam. — Star photo



Md Kafiluddin, Secretary General of BCS Association (General Education) speaking at the biennial conference of Jamalpur district unit of the association recently at Jamalpur Asheq Mahmud University College. — Star photo



Past glory: Jute is no more our golden fibre. Jute growers are being deprived of fair price of their produce for years together. Even they do not receive the production cost of jute in most places. Jute remains dull almost every year as middlemen control jute markets. Now-a-days the farmers cultivate jute in small scale with a view to meeting up the bare necessity. Photo shows some cultivators separating fibre from jute sticks in a pond in this ongoing season expecting its fair price in markets at village Jalsuka in Jhenidah district. — Star photo

Aman growers start harvesting in Rangpur

From Our Correspondent

RANGPUR, Nov 1: Farmers, visibly disappointed with the signs of comparatively low production this year, have started harvesting of Aman crops in the northern districts, including Rangpur.

The farmers said the productions will not be up to their expectations. They said heavy downpours, floods and pest attacks played havoc with the cultivation.

Agriculture officials apprehended the production will be below at least 30 per cent of target.

They said the target of Aman paddy production is around 20 lakh metric tons in greater Rangpur district and Dinajpur zone. Of them, Rangpur district alone has a target of three lakh metric tons.

The new paddy sells at comparatively low rates in some markets. However, with the advent of harvesting season agriculture day labourers are busy now. Their daily wages range between Tk 20 and Tk 30 this year.

New chairman of Mohamaya union

From Our Correspondent

FENI, Nov 1: Abu Ahmed Abul was elected chairman of Mohamaya union parishad under Chhagalnaya thana.

The election was held on October 25.

Abul bagged 2,724 votes followed by Abdul Hai with 2,357 votes.

More than 60 per cent voters cast votes.

Water-logging damages crops worth crores of taka each yr

From Our Correspondent

NOAKHALI, Nov 1: Crops and property worth crores of taka are damaged every year in nine thanas of Noakhali and Laxmipur districts due to water-logging caused by unplanned construction of dams, roads and hatcheries, reports UNB.

Officials said seedbeds in the two vast tract of seedbeds in the two districts were damaged this year due to water stagnation, severely affecting Aman output.

Locals alleged that as fish farming has become a potential business, musclemen with the help of a section of influential people have constructed dams on canals and water bodies for farming fish, blocking water outlets.

They also block free flow of waters during monsoon by making bamboo and mud walls in a bid to divert fishes into their ponds. Unplanned construction of Rahmatkhali regulator in Laxmipur district is also blamed for water logging. River waters pour into the regulator easily, but cannot roll out for lack of drainage system.

Besides, unplanned and unauthorised construction of dwelling houses and other structures on the Rahmatkhali canal have caused massive siltation hampering business of Chandpur and Laxmipur with Chittagong through the channels.

Academic activities in five Gopalganj thanas hampered

From Our Correspondent

GOPALGANJ, Nov 1: Academic activities are being seriously hampered in all the five thanas for lack of accommodation, furniture and educational appliances, reports UNB.

Besides, nearly 35 per cent of the teachers, on average, remain absent from their duties causing adverse effect on the overall academic activities.

There are 375 primary schools, 12 junior high schools, 45 high schools and 12 madrasahs in five thanas, but most are beset with manifold problems. According to a recent survey, educated youths are not interested to take teaching as a profession as salaries in the schools are poor.



Rajshahi City Corporation mayor Mijanur Rahman Minu distributing newly introduced Mayor Medals to 25 students who secured places in the merit list of SSC and HSC examinations held under Rajshahi Education Board this year. Each of the talents was also given prize bonds of Taka 2,000. The distribution programme was arranged recently at the City Bhaban complex. — Star photo