News snaps

Rivals' clash leaves man dead SIRAJGANJ, Nov 1: A clash between two rival groups of peo-

ple at village Gopinathpur in Shahjadpur thana left one person killed and 10 others injured on Saturday, reports UNB.

Police said Beraj Sardar, 45, died on the spot as he was hit with a spear. Villagers said the clash took place over the possession of a disputed mango garden. Both the groups used lethal weapons in the clash. Three of the injured were admitted to Sirajganj General Hospital in a critical condition.

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.

Facilities Department of Education Ministry repaired the school buildings - four each in Sadar and Sreepur, seven in Shalikha and five in Mohammadpur thanas - under Secondary School Development Project. Officials said Tk 60,000 was spent for renovating each of the buildings.

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.

Passengers said the muggers blocked the road with timbers and attacked the Narail-bound night coach from Dhaka when it reached there at about 4 am. They looted valuables, including cash and gold ornaments, worth of Tk 2 lakh, injuring five passengers, including the driver. The driver, identified as Liakat, 45, was admitted to Jessore General Hospital. A case was filed with Kotwali police.

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.

Police said an unidentified woman, aged about 50, was killed when a bus knocked her down near Lokpur Union Parisad in Fakirhat thana on Sunday. In another mishap, Haider Sheikh, a teacher of Bolaingunia Primary School, was run over by a truck at Kathaltoli Bazaar in Kochua thana on Saturday.

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.

According to local agriculture office, HYV paddy was cultivated on 42,815 hectares of land while local variety on 12,197 hectares in 11 thanas in the Aus season. But the flood damaged Ufsi variety of Aus on 13,348 hectares of land while local variety on 4.854 hectares. Officials estimated 29,471 mts of crops worth of Tk 50 crore were damaged by the flooding while farmlands in low-lying Homna thana could not be brought under cultivation. But the government has failed to take any rehabilitation programme to recoup the output losses, forcing the poor farmers to borrow money from moneylenders at high interest rates and some others to sell off their meagre household appliances, the farmers alleged.

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.

The price of raw hides declined as local traders shrank their businesses owing to various reasons, including shortage of fund. A cow hide is being sold at Tk 150 while the goat skin at Tk 30-40. On average about 700 cows and goats were slaughtered in different meat markets everyday. A section of unscrupulous traders collect these raw hides from the markets at throwaway prices and sold those to India to make a windfall profit. The other reason for dropping the price of rawhides is that most of the tannery owners in Dhaka stopped purchasing raw hides from the traders here. The local traders have had huge arrears with the owners in Dhaka but they are not paying those.

Pry edn being hampered

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

A total of 42 posts of headmasters and 167 assistant teachers have been lying vacant in primary schools in 13 thanas. Of the vacant post of headmasters, five posts remained vacant each in Sadar, Karimganj and Mithamain thanas, four each in Bhairab, Kuliarchar and Nikli thanas and three each in Bajitpur. Hossainpur. Tarail and Itna thanas. The highest 23 posts of assistant teachers remained vacant in Mitamoin, followed by 18 in Pakundia. 17 each in Tarail and Austragram thanas.

Arrested criminal snatched

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

Police said the mob surrounded five policemen and took away the arrested man. Alamgir, while they were taking him to the police station. Alamgir was arrested from his house in a

woman and child repression case. 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. According to official sources, the loan was given for cultivation of transplanted Aman and winter vegetables, pisciculture, cattle fattening, dairy and poultry farming, production of Aus, Aman, and Boro paddy, wheat, ground nut, mustard, potato and other vegetables buying of power-tillers and tractors, and for investment in agro-based small business.

The bank also realised outstanding loan amounting to Taka 23.35,000.00 here during the period.

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.

Police and eye-witnesses said, the accident occurred when a Dhaka-bound speeding truck from Chittagong hit a bus which had been loading and unloading passengers on the side of the road. Two bus passengers died on the spot. The dead are Farukh Mridha, 30, and Nur Hossain, 35. Ten persons were injured, of them four have been admitted to Comilla hospital.

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.

Officials said some 1,820 farmers from four thanas - Sadar, Golanda, Pangsha and Baliakandi - received the loan from BKB's 13 branches. Of the loan, Tk one crore was distributed for cultivation while the rest for purchasing agricultural inputs and other purposes. BKB Regional Director Iqbal Hossain Mollah said the bank has a target to disburse loan of Tk 22.26 crore among farmers in the current fiscal.

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.

Officials said Local Government and Engineering Department will implement the project to facilitate the educa-tion of more than 2,000 students. Meanwhile, one of the buildings, constructed at a cost of Tk 6 lakh, has been inaugurated at Gangasadpur in Mijanpur union.

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.

Officials said BKB will disburse Tk 19.70 crore among farmers of 86 unions in 10 thanas and four pourasavas here to help them purchase bullocks, irrigation materials and seeds and fertilisers.

BKB regional Manager Nurul Amin said the bank would begin the loan disbursement through its 19 branches soon and continue it till December.

Man allegedly killed by son-in-law THAKURGAON. Nov l. 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.

Moslemuddin was killed by his son-in-law Lehajuddin when the former was going to union parishad chairman to lodge a complaint against the latter for torturing his daughter Hajera Khatun. The husband was angry with his wife Hajera Khatun for giving birth to a girl child and at one stage she was driven out of the house. Moslemuddin died on the spot. The villagers caught the killer and handed over to the police.

Asthma can be controlled in healthy environment

From Abdul Wadoc!

RAJSHAHI, Nov 1: Asthma, adverse effects of oral a longlasting troublesome dismedicines, but most patients ease can be kept under control. have superstitions regarding it", they said and added some But the patients and even others, who are free of superstimost physicians are not well informed about the necessary

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

morning. Col Mong Ten Win, Director of RMCH inaugurated the clinic. The physicians observed and suggested that both the doctors and patients should be

Rajshahi Medical college unit

opened the clinic on October 25

measures.

well-oriented on the issue. "Inhaler is a very fruitful measure in controlling Asthma and avoiding

Jhenidah district.

Aman growers

start harvesting

in Rangpur

From Our Correspondent

visibly disappointed with the

signs of comparatively low pro-

duction this year, have started

harvesting of Aman crops in

the northern districts, includ-

ductions will not be up to their

expectations. They said heavy

downpours, floods and pest at-

tacks played havoc with the cul-

Agriculture officials appre-

They said the target of Aman

hended the production will be

below at least 30 per cent of tar-

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

paratively low rates in some

harvesting season agriculture

day labourers are busy now.

Their daily wages range be-

tween Tk 20 and Tk 30 this

New chairman of

Mohamaya union

From Our Correspondent

Abul was elected chairman of

Mohamaya union parishad un-

der Chhagalnya thana.

October 25.

FENI. Nov 1: Abu Ahmed

The election was held on

Abul bagged 2,724 votes fol-

More than 60 per cent voters

lowed by Abdul Hai with 2,357

The new paddy sells at com-

However, with the advent of

The farmers said the pro-

ing Rangpur.

livation.

metric tons.

markets.

RANGPUR, Nov 1: Farmers,

tions, 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 cesponsible for Asthma and tor 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

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

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

vast tract of seedbeds in the two

districts' were damaged this

year due to water stagnation.

severely affecting Aman output.

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

GOPALGANJ, Nov 1: Aca-

demic activities are being seri-

ously hampered in all the five

thanas for lack of accommoda-

tion, furniture and educational

the teachers, on average, re-

main absent from their duties

causing adverse effect on the

schools, 12 junior high schools,

45 high schools and 12

madrashas in five thanas, but

most are beset with manifold

educated youths are not inter-

ested to take teaching as a pro-

fession as salaries in the

According to a recent survey.

There are 375 primary

overall academic activities.

problems.

Besides, nearly 35 per cent of

appliances, reports UNB.

Locals alleged that as fish

Officials said seedlings on a

and hatcheries, reports UNB.

Water-logging damages crops

worth crores of taka each yr

Academic activities in five

Gopalganj thanas hampered

their ponds.

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, Asistant Professor in Medicine and general secretary of the Asthma Association Dr Qazi Tariqui Islam, senior consul-tant 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



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 Rezaur Rahman of Mirpur in Dhaka, Raqibul Hasan Polash of Bilshimla in Rajshahi and Abdur Razzaque Sentu of Baharampur in Rajshahi.

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

— Star photo

They also block free flow of

waters during monsoon by

making bamboo and mud walls

in a bid to divert fishes into

Rahmatkhali regulator in

Laxmipur district is also

blamed for water logging. River

waters pour into the regulator

easily, but cannot roll out for

unauthorised construction of

dwelling houses and other

structures on the Rahmatkhali

cannel have caused massive sil-

tation hampering business of

Chandpur and Laxmipur with

Chittagong through the chan-

Madrashas could not even

With sharp deterioration in

Deputy Commissioner Iqbal

the academic standard, students

often adopt unfair means

during the SSC and Dakhil ex-

Mahmud told a coordination

meeting recently that during

surprise visits he found a large

number of teachers absent in

most of the non-government

DC advised both the teachers

and the managing committees

to look into the matter for the

Lamenting the situation, the

high schools and madrashas.

pay 30 per cent of the salaries to

their teachers due to shortage of

students and funds.

aminations.

Besides, unplanned and

lack of drainage system.

Unplanned construction of

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

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 after-

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 re-

Reception DCC comissioners and offi-

cials 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

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

Arrest of killers demanded

Rajshahi city unit of the ruling party backed Bangladesh Chattra 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, Shakhawat Hossain Shafique, 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 Murtuja Ali. JBC Rajshahi zonal manager B 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) office of Primary Education Directorate in Dhaka.

Usually district primary ed-ucation 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 compliant against the three female

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

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



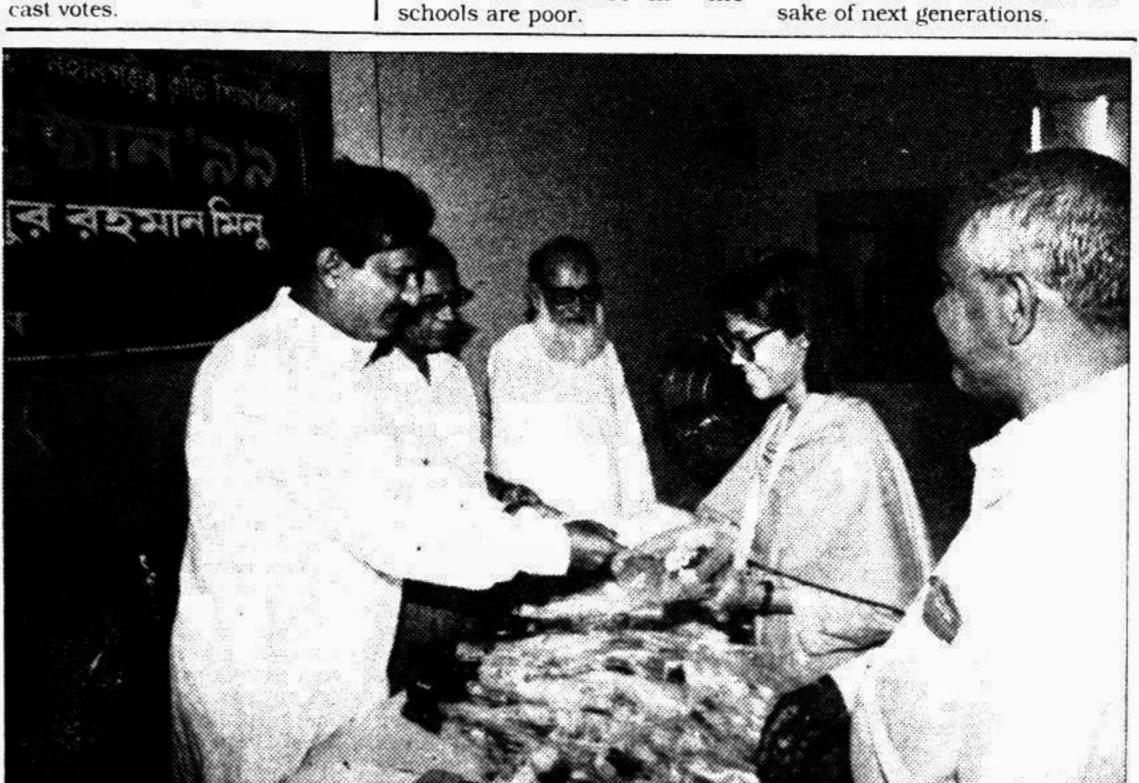
Rajshahi University Vice-Chancellor Prof Sayeedur Rahman Khan delivering his address as the chief guest at a farewell and freshers' reception ceremony held recently at Kazi Nazrul Islam auditorium on the university campus. Star photo



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



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