

## National

# People's participation must for revamping Chalan Beel project

NATORE, Apr 8 : To chalk out a comprehensive action plan for revamping the Chalan Beel mega-project, donor representatives and Go-NGO key personalities met in a workshop here and suggested people's direct participation to ensure its success, reports UNB.

Chalan Beel Project, which came under scrutiny for certain harms, encompasses over six lakh hectares of cropland in six northern districts of Natore, Rajshahi, Naogaon, Bogra, Pabna and Sirajganj.

Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak inaugurated the daylong workshop on "Chalan Beel Project: Problems and Prospects" at Natore Zilla Parishad hall on Thursday.

Water Resources Secretary Dr ATM Shamsul Huda presided over the workshop participated by Members of Parliament, UP Chairmen, environmentalists, engineers of WDB, journalists, representatives of World Bank, WFP and farmers of six Chalan Beel districts to hammer out an action

plan for smooth implementation of the comprehensive project.

Problems of the project have long been lying unsolved since the killing of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Rahman. "Our government will implement the project as well as solve its problems from the next fiscal year (2000-2001)," the Water Resources Minister said.

Chalan Beel Project was the first project in the region studied by ECI of USA and ACI of Pakistan in 1970. It was conceived as a major FCDI project divided into four polders - A,B,C and D. It has provision of pump drainage and supply of irrigation water from the Jamuna as back flow through the rivers Boral and Hurasagar, subsequently by several lifts.

After the liberation, the project was modified deferring the multi-lift and ambitious irrigation and development programme.

The project was taken to meet the increasing demands of the growing population. People

of the flood-prone region started reclaiming land for more food production as well as protecting them from fury of floods that would cause colossal damage every year.

However, experts opined that mass people's participation in implementation of the ambitious project is a need to get maximum benefit from the project.

Later, participants in 10 groups adopted recommendations.

Prof Zannatul Ferdous MP, Shamsul Alam MP, Abu Hena MP, Former Minister Sarder Amzad Hossain and peasant leader Alok Bardhan addressed the function, among others.

Irrigation engineer of WB DR MA Gani, WFP consultant S Arefin, WDB Chairman Golam Rabbani, its Chief Engineer Obaidur Rahman, Rajshahi Zilla chief Engineer M Asaduzzaman, Rajshahi Divisional Commissioner Khan Shahabuddin and Deputy Commissioner of Natore Sheikh Altaf Ali also spoke.



Drug addiction raises alarm

The number of heroin addicts are on rise alarmingly in Sirajganj district. A survey conducted by a non-governmental organisation reveals that at least 100 persons died and 3,000 others had been affected due to this bad practise during the last four years in a ward of Sirajganj town only. Keramat Ali, a local commissioner alleged non-cooperation from the members of law and order agencies in combating the menace. Unscrupulous traders are doing brisk business of phensidyl, heroin and hashish in Railway Colony, Hossainpur and Mohammadpur areas in the town. The addicts resort to stealing, hijacking, snatching and other criminal activities to procure drugs. One police officer is allegedly engaged in smuggling the drugs. Photo shows two addicts named Sukur and Kamal of village Sayagobinda in Sirajganj Municipality. Such scene is very common here.

— Star photo by Akhteruzzaman Bablu

## নোটিশ

১৯৯০ ইংরেজির অর্থনীতি আইনের ৫(ক) ধারা

মাননীয় সাবজেক্ষন অর্থনীতি আদালত, সিলেট

অর্থনীতি মোকদ্দমা নং ১০/১৯ ইংরেজি

বাংলাদেশ কৃষি ব্যাংক.....বাদী

## বরাম

মোঃ আলী মিয়া-----বিবাদী

পতি, মোঃ আলী মিয়া পিতা আনুময়া সাং-খারু বিল, ডাকঘর-জৈস্তাপুর, থানা-জৈস্তাপুর, জেলা-সিলেট-----বিবাদী।

যেহেতু,

অতি মোকদ্দমার বাদী বাংলাদেশ কৃষি ব্যাংক ৩১-৩-১৯৯০ইং তারিখ পর্যন্ত তাদের পাণ্ডা ১,০০,৭৭০/০০ টাকা দারী করিয়া অতি মোকদ্দমা দায়ের করিয়াছেন এবং যেহেতু বার বার সমন দেওয়া সত্ত্বেও আপনারা তাহা গ্রহণ করিতেছেন না যেহেতু আপনাদিগকে জানানো যাইতেছে যে, অতি বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের ৩০ (ঝিল) দিনের মধ্যে আপনারা স্বয়ং কিন্তু এতেড়োকেট মারফতে আদালতে উপস্থিত হইয়া লিখিত জবাব দাবিল করিবেন। আপনাদের অনুপস্থিতিতে অতি মোকদ্দমা একত্রক্ষা মতে চলিবে।

অদ্য সন ২০০০ সালের ১/২ ইং তারিখ আমার স্বাক্ষর ও আদালতের মোহরযুক্ত মতে দেওয়া গো।

অদেশক্রমে

মোঃ রহমত উল্যাহ

সেরেস্টারার

সাবজেক্ষন অর্থনীতি আদালত, সিলেট।

জিঃ-৩২০

## Killing of imam Punishment to killers demanded

From Our Correspondent  
MYMENSINGH, Apr 8 : A procession was brought out in the district headquarters on Thursday protesting the killing of an imam of a mosque.

About five hundred people, including the students and teachers of different madrasas, religious institutions, and imams, persons who administer prayers in mosques, joined the procession.

The agitating people chanted slogans demanded immediate arrest and exemplary punishment to culprits.

Jamsed Ali, 27, the imam of a mosque of village Chat Gobindapur, was killed in Bin Para area on the bank of the Brahmaputra river.

A group of people beat him up in the area suspecting him a robber at about 8 pm on April 1. He died at Mymensingh Medical College Hospital on April 2.

The procession paraded different thoroughfares in the town. Later the agitating people submitted a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner.

## Two killed in Sirajganj road accident

From Our Correspondent  
SIRAJGANJ Apr 8 : Two people have been killed in road accident in the district.

In the accident, the two were killed when a Bagalbari-bound tank lorry hit a bicycle on Thursday at Garadaha under Shahjadpur thana. The victims were travelling in the bicycle.

They were identified as Shamsim, 12, and Arif, 16.

Following the accidents, local people put up barricades on the road, disrupting traffic movement for nearly three hours.

When police reached the area to bring the situation under control, mob locked in clash with the members of law enforcement agency, injuring 25 people, including four policemen.

## CUVC seeks cooperation of all

CHITTAGONG, Apr 8 : Chittagong University Vice Chancellor Prof Abdul Mannan on Sunday sought the cooperation of all concerned including teachers and guardians to restore peaceful academic atmosphere on the campus, reports BSS.

Chittagong University remained closed for about three months on account of clashes between rival student organisations.

# News snaps

## Four sued for misusing power

COMILLA, Apr 8 : The District Anti-corruption Bureau has filed a case against former Civil Surgeon Dr Nazrul Islam and 3 others accusing them of misusing of power and sustaining financial loss to the exchequer, reports UNB.

Three others are former Administrative Officer Mohammad Moslem, former Chief Assistant Abul Basar and Health Assistant Enamul Haq. The prosecution said that the officials had illegally absorbed in job Enamul Haq after six years absence from his work place by abusing power. Enamul Haq took a leave for five days in 1984 but joined in January, 1990 after about six years of absence.

## Scout commissioner honoured

JHALAKATHI, Apr 8 : District Scout Commissioner of Jhalakathi Nurul Islam was awarded the certificate of honour for distinguished conduct in scouting recently, reports BSS.

Chief Scout President Shahabuddin Ahmed gave him the award at a current session of Bangladesh Scouts in Dhaka. Nurul Islam is also the founder president of the district press club.

## Seven schemes implemented

SHARIATPUR, Apr 8 : Zila Parishad of the district has just implemented seven development schemes under the Annual Development Programme (ADP), reports BSS.

According to official sources, the schemes have been implemented at a cost of Taka 80 lakh in the current fiscal. The projects included construction and reconstruction of different roads, construction of passenger shades at different bus terminals and renovation of rest houses in the district.

## Maid servant raped

BAGERHAT, Apr 8 : A house owner allegedly violated his maid servant in village Zaria under Fakirhat thana recently, reports UNB.

Police said Nizamuddin, 42, father of two children, raped the 12-year-old girl at night in the absence of his family members in the house. Neighbours rescued the girl after hearing her cries and took her to the thana health complex. The rapist went into hiding after the incident.

## Water supply plant inaugurated

KISHOREGANJ, Apr 8 : Local Government Minister Zillur Rahaman on Thursday said Begum Khaleeda Zia cannot ascertain through declaration which party is going to form the government rather the party that will get people's verdict in the vote will form the government, reports BSS.

He was addressing the inaugural session of the supply plant of pure drinking water free from iron and arsenic at the Bhaishab Public Health Engineering Department. The minister said some political parties including BNP have embarked upon self-destructive role by boycotting parliament and calling baseless hartals. They have become isolated from the public and dreaming of forming the government by declaration, he said.

## Man killed over land dispute

CHAPAINAWABGANJ, Apr 8 : A man was killed and his son seriously injured by his brother and nephew following a family feud over demarcation of land at Chainpara in Shibganj Thana last week, reports UNB.

Police said Abdul Latif and his son hit Nurul Islam, 55, and his son Shawkat, 25, with a sharp weapon during the quarrel. Nurul Islam died on the spot. Shawkat was admitted to Shibganj Hospital.

## Aus farming programme

TANGAIL, Apr 8 : A total of 21,840 hectares of land will be brought under Aus paddy cultivation in the district in this season with a target production of 23,318 tons of rice, reports BSS.

Agriculture Extension Department (AED) sources said that under the programme high yielding variety of Aus will be cultivated on 1,810 hectares with a target production of 3,288 tons of rice and local variety on 20,030 hectares with a target production of 20,030 tons of rice. The farmers will be provided with HYV Aus seeds as per scheduled rate, AED sources added.

## Uplift schemes for colleges

MEHERPUR, Apr 8 : Various buildings of three educational institutions of the district will be renovated in the current fiscal, reports BSS.

According to sources, the projects will be completed at a cost of Taka 98.75 lakh. The institutions include Meherpur Govt. Girls' School, Meherpur Govt Girls' College and Mujibnagar College.

## Robbers loot cash, valuables

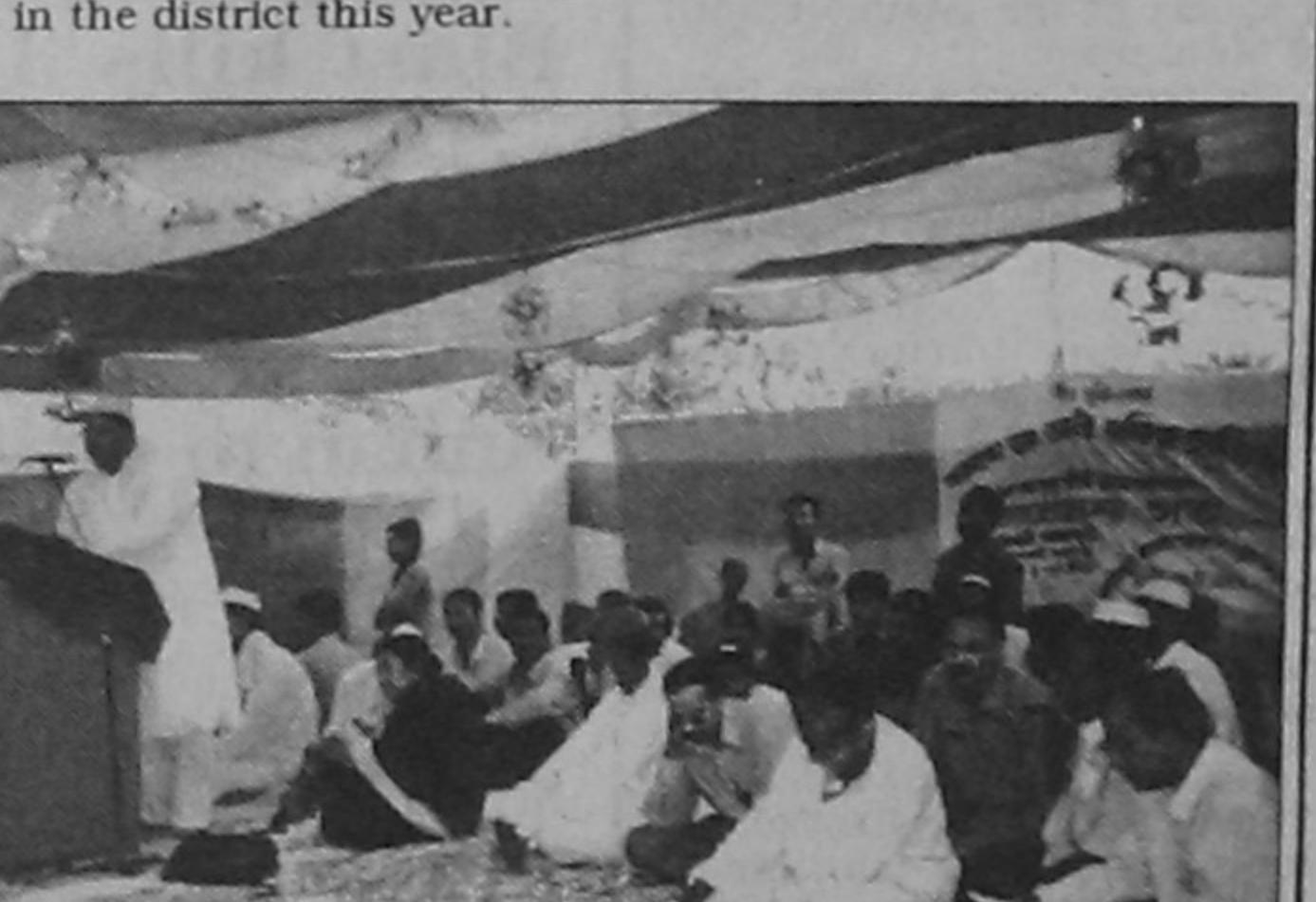
HABIGANJ, Apr 8 : A group of armed robbers looted cash and valuables from a house adjacent to Baniachang union office on Monday night, reports UNB.

Police said dacoits broke open the office, entered the house and looted cash, cigarette and lottery prizes worth about one lakh taka. Inmates of the house Abubakar and Shakti Ranjan Bhowmik, employees of Sunmoon Cigarette Company, tried to resist but the dacoits looted the valuables at gunpoint and escaped safely.

## Boro farming programme

PIROJPUR, Apr 8 : Farmers with active support of the Agriculture Extension Department have brought 16,016 hectares under Boro cultivation in six thanas of the district, which is expected to give a bumper crop this season, reports UNB.

The officials said the target was 13,090 hectares to bring under Boro cultivation. But it was exceeded by 2,926 hectares in sadar, Kaokhola, Nechharabadi, Nazipur, Bhandaria and Mathbaria. Boro harvest is expected to be 4,500 metric tons of rice in the district this year.



Remembering a martyr  
Sk Nurul Haque, member of parliament (MP) from Paikgacha, Khulna addressing a discussion meeting in Moukhali village of Paikgacha thana recently. The meeting was organised by Bangladesh Friendship Education Society (BFES) to observe the death anniversary of martyred freedom fighter Dr Ali Hafiz Salim, who was also the former Secretary General of BMA.

## Training course

JHALAKATHI, Apr 8 : A 3-month training course for educated unemployed youths with a view to making them self-reliant began here on Monday, reports UNB.

Some 125 participants from Jhalakati and Pirojpur are taking part in the course organised by local Youth Training Centre. The participants will be imparted with know-how of rearing poultry birds, domestic animal farming, pisciculture and first aid. Youth Development Department will give them certificates and scheme-based loan among the youths after the training.

## Man dies in Padma boat tragedy

RAJBARI, Apr 8 : A man went missing as a boat sank in the River Padma near Doulatdia in Goala thana on Sunday, reports UNB.

Villagers said the boat, carrying two people, capsized in the midstream of the river as it was hit by a strong current. The missing man was identified as Bacchu, 23 of village Charkar-nasina.



Onion farmers of Jhenidah expect a good output

A good production of onion and garlic is expected this year in Jhenidah. Agriculture Extension Department had fixed a target to produce 25,000 metric tons of onion on 2,500 hectares and 8,600 metric tons of garlic on 1,500 hectares of land. Photo shows a farmer of village Shyampur uprooting weeds from his plot of onion.

— Star photo by Delwar Kabir

## Onion output may miss target in Faridpur

From Our Correspondent

FARDIPUR, Apr 8: Harvesting of onion is going on in eight thanas of the district in swing in eight thanas of the district.

Some onion growers of Char Bhadrashan thana and Sadarpur thana, however, said the target of production would not be achieved in the district this year as the frequent rainfall in the month of January, February and March caused heavy damage.

## Two killed in road mishap in Rajshahi

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Apr 8: Two persons were killed in a road accident on Wednesday night at Karchhara in Pabna thana.

A Chapaingawabganj-bound night coach from Dhaka hit a bicycle from behind, injuring two people who were travelling in the bicycle.

## Two killed in road accident in Rajshahi

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Apr 8: Two persons were killed and 20 others injured in two separate road accidents on Tuesday.

Local people said Daud Biswas used to torture his wife Rebeba Begum for dowry.