

## National

JFF gas leakage  
victims released  
from hospital

From Our Correspondent  
JAMALPUR, June 13: Two of the victims of gas leakage at Jamuna Fertiliser Factory (JFF) were released after treatment from the district general hospital on Monday.

Earlier, some 25 people fell sick in a gas leak during overhauling of JFF at Tarakandi in Jamalpur on Friday afternoon. Two of them, Maznur, a line-man of Rural Electrification Board (REB) and Morshed, a fertiliser dealer, were admitted in the hospital.

### Unabated liquor trade in Kushtia

From Our Correspondent  
KUSHTIA, June 13: Liquor traders are doing brisk business here as there is no effective control over selling of rectified spirit.

Unscrupulous traders in connivance with a section of homeopaths collect rectified spirit, the main component country liquor, from homeopathy pharmacies, sources said. Homeopaths use rectified spirit to produce medicines.

The traders mix water with rectified spirit to make country liquor. One pound of rectified spirit costs Tk 60.00. This kind of liquor is seriously injurious to health.

The illegal trade has become a common feature in the town. But Drugs and Narcotics Control Department officials are very reluctant to launch drive against the traders, local people alleged.

They urged the authorities concerned to take immediate steps to check the illegal trade.

### Pirojpur bus tragedy turns Sejan into an orphan

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, June 13: Sejan, a 3-year-old boy was found playing near a graveyard in a village of Bhandaria in Pirojpur, a southern district under Barisal division when this correspondent visited their home recently.

He did not know or even guess that this graveyard was of his beloved mother, whom he will never see again. Because she has gone to eternity for ever.

Sejan's mother Suraya Azad was killed in the fateful bus plunge incident at Charkhali ferryghat under the Bhandaria thana in Pirojpur on May 27.

The ill-fated passenger bus dived into the Kacha river from the ferry tearing its safety chain as the driver lost control over the brake of his vehicle. Suraya Azad, 35, a popular teacher of Majida Begum college of Bhandaria who was travelling to Pirojpur on board the bus met a tragic death instantly.

Her husband Noasher Azad, 38, is an advocate who practises law at the High Court. Before joining the High Court in Dhaka he was a member of Pirojpur Bar. On the very fateful day Noasher was staying at his village home at Bhandaria. Later on he came to the spot and received his wife's dead body after hearing the tragic news of

# Ambitious Coastal Green Belt Project progressing

From Aroop Talukdar



Some beneficiaries along the green forest.

planted in and around the educational institutions, religious organisations, government offices and dwelling houses in the districts.

It is expected that with the implementation of the project about 10,500 hectares of land will be brought under the afforestation programme.

When contacted the Divi-

sional Forest Officer here, Abul Bashar said that initially the project had been undertaken in 10 districts. Later on Barisal and Jhalakati have been included. Accordingly the revised budget for the project has been fixed at Taka 100.30 crores.

As per the project profile, earnings from the planted trees under the project will be dis-

tributed as follows:

Forest Department-10 per cent, beneficiaries 55 per cent, land owner 10 per cent, nearby private land owner 10 per cent, union council 5 per cent. Related Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) will get Taka 200 for selection and training of each beneficiary per year. It will continue for the next two years.

— Star photo

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— Star photo

Under the project about 1,500-kilometre embankments, 3,000-km roads and over thousand kilometres of rural roads are being constructed. Besides, under the project about 3 crores saplings of high yielding varieties of fruit bearing trees and other valuable trees are being

planted in and around the educational institutions, religious organisations, government offices and dwelling houses in the districts.

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### Flood situation static in Sylhet

Rains inundate Cox's Bazar areas

By Staff Correspondent

The overall flood situation in Sylhet remained unchanged on Monday while huge areas of Cox's Bazar Municipality, sadar thana, Ramu, Chakaria and Ukhia upazilas went under water due to continuous rain and onrush of water because of continuous rain and onrush of water from the hilly region.

Our Sylhet Correspondent reports: The overall situation of flash flood in four bordering thanas here remained unchanged as rains continued and onrush of waters from the upper stream in the Indian territory continued for the fourth day on Monday. About 30 thousand stone collecting labourers have become jobless as extraction of stones remained suspended in four quarries in Gowainghat and Companyganj thanas.

In Companyganj thana, about 200 boats used for carrying stones from the two quarries had been drowned in the

gushing waters from the hilly areas in the Indian borders during the last two days. Collection of stones from the country's biggest quarry Bholaganj and Uthma remained suspended for the third day on Monday. It has made 20,000 labourers jobless.

In Kanaighat thana, nine unions have been affected. Plying of vehicles on the Sylhet-Kanaighat-Darbast Road have been suspended as water was flowing through it. The rivers Surma and Lova were flowing above the danger level. The gushing waters have inundated Dalaichar, Mahespur and Chaura areas as the Surma Dyke at Gouripur near the thana headquarters remained unprepared yet.

Road communications between the district headquarters and Gowainghat upazila remained suspended for the forth day on Monday as part of the Sari-Gowainghat road was still

under water, official sources said. Stone collection in Jaffalong and Bichnakandi quarries remained suspended.

Our Cox's Bazar Correspondent says: Huge areas of Cox's Bazar Municipality, sadar thana, Ramu, Chakaria and Ukhia upazila went under water due to continuous rain and onrush of water from the hilly region.

At least 30,000 people are marooned in Chokria, Ramu and Sadar upazilas due to flash flood by heavy rain.

The Bakkhali and Mata-muhuri now flowing above ground level. Cox's Bazar town experienced 90 mm rainfall on Monday, according to local Met office. Over 5,000 day labourers of Mokeskhali and Kutubdia Upazilas have become jobless due to heavy rainfall. Rain water remains stagnant for hours in different areas of Cox's Bazar town following heavy showers over the last few days.

The court fixed August 3, 2000 for hearing the case.

### Rare example of holding honours exams in time

From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY, June 13: The Department of Genetics and Breeding of the university has set an example by holding the honours final examinations and publishing the results according to schedules.

The department, which faces no session jam, was successful to complete the examinations of the first batch students on May 25 this year and publish the results on June 3.

The results were made public at a simple ceremony with chairman of the department Prof Abdul Khaleque in the chair. Vice Chancellor Prof Sayeedur Rahman Khan distributed provisional certificates among successful students as the chief guest. Also present were Pro Vice Chancellor Prof M Wazed Ali and Project Director of Rangpur Science and Technology University Prof Khalequzaman.

The first batch students got admitted into department in May 1997 under 1996-97 academic session.

Eighteen students appeared in the examinations, and 13 of them placed in first class and two in second class. Shamima Begum Chhobi stood first class first.

Controller (in-charge) of ex-

aminations Abdul Mannan, Prof AKM Ershadul Islam also spoke on the occasion.

Most of the departments of the university have reduced the session jams in recent years, thanks to congenial atmosphere on the campus. The university witnessed no unscheduled closure in the last three years.

In his speech, Prof Sayeedur Rahman Khan said it is the professional commitment of the teachers to complete courses, take examinations and publish results in due time. The teachers of the department have set a rare example of professional commitment, he added.

A sign of encouragement

FARIDPUR, June 13: In a sign of encouragement, district administration has realised Tk 18.45 lakh from some brick-field owners as fine for burning logs, reports UNB.

Official sources said the fine was realised through mobile courts this season under Brick Burning (Control) Act 1989 and Brick Burning (Control) (Amendment) Ordinance 1992.

According to prosecution

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