

## National

Storms lash 3 dists:  
1 killed in Gopalganj

GOPALGANJ, June 16: A man was killed and 20 others injured during a nor'wester in five upazilas here recently, reports UNB.

The man whose name could not be known was killed in a lightning at Sadullah village during the storm.

In another incident, goods worth about Tk 2 lakh were gutted in a fire at a shop in Tungi Bazaar.

The fire originated from a streak of lightning during the nor'wester also toppled a large number of trees and damaged thatched houses in Kashiani, Kotalpara and Uthtipara areas.

**Our Gaibandha correspondent says:** A nor'wester that swept over Nagarkanda, Madhukhali, Boalmari and sadar thana recently injured at least 50 persons, damaged 500 kutch dwelling houses and standing crops on a vast tract of land.

Nagarkanda thana staff quarters was partially damaged.

Big trees were uprooted and electric poles broke down disrupting electricity supply for about 24 hours.

However, the employees of the electricity department restored electricity in the disrupted area working round the clock.

The worst affected areas include Ishan Gopalpur Union under sadar thana, Moinda Market under Boalmari thana and Banga bazaar under Banga thana.

## Indefinite strike by DPHE employees in Rajshahi

NATORE, June 16: An indefinite strike by low-grade employees has plunged the Rajshahi circle of Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE) into a deep crisis, reports UNB.

Unions of Class Three and Four Employees in six districts of the DPHE Rajshahi circle went on the non-stop strike on April 17 demanding removal of Executive Engineer, Rajshahi, Monjurur Rahman for his alleged involvement in corruption and misuse of power.

The six districts under the circle are Rajshahi, Natore, Chapainawabganj, Naogaon, Pabna and Sirajganj.

The union leaders here alleged that the executive engineer was trying to suspend some DPHE employees from its Rajshahi office in a bid to consolidate his power apart from indulging in corruption.

Meanwhile, a high-powered team from Dhaka visited Rajshahi and investigated the complaints brought against

## A handful of students mar academic life of the rest CU VC tells freshers at the university

From Our Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, June 16: Chittagong University Vice-Chancellor Professor Abdul Mannan said that the unrest atmosphere created by a handful of students mar the academic life of most other students and also results in untoward incidents. He called upon all concerned to remain alert against such disruptive activities and identify those engaged in them.

Pro-VC Abu Yusuf reiterated his words.

Both the VC and Pro-VC were addressing the freshers reception and welfare ceremony of Botani Department at gallery

## No fire station in 32 upazillas in Barisal div

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, June 16: Thirty-two upazillas out of 38 in six southern districts under Barisal division have no fire station, although frequent fire incidents take place throughout the year, particularly in the summer.

The fire brigade station at the divisional headquarters lacks modern equipment. Official sources, however, said a decision has been taken to set up fire stations at Banaripara, Gouradi, Bakerganj, Nazirpur and Kaukhali upazillas of Barisal and Pirojpur districts.

According to fire brigade sources, 32 people were killed, nearly 683 others injured and properties worth of about Tk 1.50 crore gutted in 194 fire incidents in Barisal, Patuakhali, Jhalakathi, Pirojpur, Bhola and Barguna districts last year.

## Chaghot river to be re-excavated

RANGPUR, June 16: The Water Development Board will re-excavate the Chaghot river in Gangachara upazila under the district during the current dry season, reports BSS.

A source from Rangpur Water Development Board said about 1000 metric tons of wheat had been sanctioned for the work. The work on the scheme will start soon.

Another report adds: Repair and reconstruction work of the Teesta river embankment was completed recently by the Water Development Board.

The work stretching about 20 kilometers of the embankment covered Kaunia, Gangachara and Jaldhaka upazilas. Nine hundred eighty metric tons of wheat and Tk 31 lakh in cash were spent on the scheme.

The wheat was provided under the World Food Programme while the cash money was allocated by the government.



From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, June 16: Sabyasachi Talukdar, Cadet No 947 of Barisal Cadet College secured 15th position in the combined merit list from science group in the SSC examination under Jessoro Education Board this year.

He obtained 917 marks in total with 8 letters in Bengali, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, G Math, E Math, Religious Studies and Social Science.

His father Aroop Talukdar is a journalist, now working as a staff correspondent of The Daily Star.

His mother Dr. Sonali Sen Gupta is a doctor, now serving as a health and Family Planning Officer (THFPO) at sadar thana in Barisal.

Sabyasachi likes to play cricket and volleyball. He played in his college team. He also likes to read books of various types in leisure.

Sabyasachi wants to be an army officer. He is the youngest son of his parents.

## Paddy farmers deprived of fair price in dists

NAOGAON, June 16: Despite having a bumper production of IRRI-Boro paddy, a silent despair and gloom cast on minds of the farmers of 16 northern districts, including Naogaon, due to lack of fair price of their produce, reports UNB.

Agriculture Extension Department sources said IRRI-Boro paddy on 42 lakh acres of land were cultivated in 16 northern districts as against the total target of 39 lakh acres.

The production from the acreage is estimated at 45 lakh metric tons in terms of rice. The quantity is seven times higher than that of the government.

Big trees were uprooted and electric poles broke down disrupting electricity supply for about 24 hours.

However, the employees of the electricity department restored electricity in the disrupted area working round the clock.

The worst affected areas include Ishan Gopalpur Union under sadar thana, Moinda Market under Boalmari thana and Banga bazaar under Banga thana.

gave good results in controlling pest.

**BSS from Kurigram says:** A record bumper yield of Boro crop has been achieved in Kurigram district this year.

Harvesting of the crop is expected to be completed by the second week of the current month throughout the district.

According to AED, a target of producing 1,79,373 tonnes of Boro rice from a total of 63,330 hectares was fixed here for this year. It included cultivation of high yielding variety on 60,810 hectares and local variety on 2,520 hectares. But the farmers brought a total of 68,685 hectares under Boro cultivation to produce 4,925 tonnes in Sadarpur upazila, 5,535 hectares to produce 15,822 tonnes in Banga upazila, 3,075 hectares to produce 8,790 tonnes in Madhukhali upazila, 4,470 hectares to produce 12,759 tonnes in Boalmari upazila and 1,805 hectares to produce 5,226 tonnes of paddy in Alfordanga upazila.

Meanwhile, harvesting of paddy is going on in full swing here.

**A message from Panchagarh says:** Following favourable weather, farmers in the five upazilas of Panchagarh district are expecting bumper production of Boro paddy this season.

Agriculture Extension Department set a production target of 43,173 mts of paddy from 14,940 hectares of land this year.

AED sources said they took some necessary steps to increase the production by providing training to the farmers about modern cultivation process and encouraging them to bring more land under Boro cultivation.

As a result there was a less pest attack on the crop in comparison to the previous years augmenting the production.

Deputy Director of AED said farmers successfully adopted the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) techniques, which

achieved in eight upazilas here during the current season.

According to AED sources, a total of 32,340 hectares of land were brought under IRRI-Boro farming with a target to produce 90,131 tonnes of paddy here.

Upazila-wise break-up of cultivation and production target of paddy is as follows: 6045 hectares of land were brought under the cultivation with a target to produce 16,706 tonnes of paddy in sadar upazila, 730 hectares to produce 1,726 tonnes in Char Bhadrasan upazila, 8,630 hectares to produce 24,177 tonnes in Nagarkanda upazila, 2,050 hectares to produce 4,925 tonnes in Sadarpur upazila, 5,535 hectares to produce 15,822 tonnes in Banga upazila, 3,075 hectares to produce 8,790 tonnes in Madhukhali upazila, 4,470 hectares to produce 12,759 tonnes in Boalmari upazila and 1,805 hectares to produce 5,226 tonnes of paddy in Alfordanga upazila.

Some of the farmers under sadar upazila told this correspondent that the bumper yield of the paddy has been possible in the season owing to favourable climatic condition.

**Our Kushtia correspondent reports:** Prices of rice have registered a slight fall with the arrival of new Boro rice in the markets here.

Some traders told this correspondent that the prices would come down further with adequate supply of rice in the markets. Coarse rice is being sold at Tk 13.00 per kg as against Tk 14.50 per kg a month ago, fine variety of rice in being sold at Tk 16 per kg as against Tk 18 per kg a month ago.

Local agriculture experts opined that the government should purchase more and more Boro crops directly from the farmers at every union parishad headquarters, instead of all nine upazila headquarters, to enable the farmers getting fair price.

**Our Faridpur Correspondent reports:** The bumper yield of IRRI-Boro paddy has been

## Jessore Board SSC exam

## Jhenidah Cadet College captures 13 top positions

From Delwar Kabir



Top row (Left-Right) Farid, Fahad, Iqbal, Faraby, Ehtesham, Andalib, Forhad, Farhan, Momin, Ibrahim, Rashed, Jikrul. Bottom row — Star photo

marks in English, Mathematics, Islamic Religion, Higher Mathematics, General Science, Physics, Chemistry and Karmamukhi Shikkha.

Tanvir is a sports man he desire to join the Army. His father Major Mohammad Kamal Uddin serves in the Army at BDR Headquarter at Pilkhana in Dhaka.

Andalib's father Lieutenant Colonel Jahid Mahmud resides in New Elephant Road in Dhaka.

Ehtesham of JCC Roll Number 139644 bagged letter marks in English, Mathematics, Islamic Religion, General Science, Physics, Chemistry and Karmamukhi Shikkha.

Iqbal's hobby is reading books and stamp collection. He desire to join the Army.

His father Shahadat Hossain serves in the Public Works Department in Dhaka.

Farah, bearing Roll Number 139649 stood 12th in the combined merit list securing 921 marks and bagged letter marks in English, Mathematics, Islamic Religion, Higher Mathematics, General Science, Physics, Chemistry and Karmamukhi Shikkha.

Farah's hobby is reading books and his ambition is to join the Army. His father Mofid Hossain is a Master Operator at Palash Urea Fertiliser Factory at Narsingdi.

Farah's of JCC Roll Number 139663 stood 13th in the combined merit list in SSC examination from Jassore board this year. Arzu secured 915 marks bagging letter marks in English, Mathematics, Islamic Religion, Higher Mathematics, General Science, Physics, Chemistry and Karmamukhi Shikkha.

Iqbal usually read for eight hours daily. His hobby is reading books. He wants to join the Army. His father Nasir Uddin is a health worker in Health Department at Chougacha in Jessore.

Aslique Iqbal, Roll 139659 of Jhenidah Cadet College stood fourth in the combined merit list securing 929 marks. He bagged letter marks in English, Mathematics, Islamic Religion, Higher Mathematics, General Science, Physics, Chemistry and Karmamukhi Shikkha.

Iqbal usually read for eight hours daily. His hobby is reading books. He wants to join the Army.

His father Aroop Talukdar is a journalist, now working as a staff correspondent of The Daily Star.

His mother Dr. Sonali Sen Gupta is a doctor, now serving as a health and Family Planning Officer (THFPO) at sadar thana in Barisal.

Sabyasachi likes to play cricket and volleyball. He played in his college team. He also likes to read books of various types in leisure.

Sabyasachi wants to be an army officer. He is the youngest son of his parents.

stood 8th in the Humanities Group in SSC examination securing 854 marks. Mahmud bagged letter marks in English, Mathematics, Islamic Religion, General Science, Geography and Karmamukhi Shikkha. His hobby is reading books. He wants to join the Army. Mahmud's father Aktar Hossain is the Manager of Agrani Bank at Jessore.

Cadet Rashed of JCC stood 18th in the Humanities Group securing 832 marks. He bagged letter marks in English, Mathematics, General Science, Geography and Karmamukhi Shikkha.

Ibrahim's hobby is reading books, and stamp collection. He desire to join the Army.

His father Shahadat Hossain serves in the Public Works Department in Dhaka.

He loves games and sports. He wants to join the Army to serve the nation.

Rashed is the son of late AKM Reazul Islam at HSS road in Jhenidah town.

## Marriage without registration up in Cox's Bazar

From Our Correspondent

COX'S BAZAR, June 16: Most of the marriages are being solemnised without registrations in rural areas in the district. Parents and guardians of brides and grooms are reluctant to pay marriage registration fees. The trend has increased in recent years.

In most cases, marriages are being solemnised without registrations in the rural areas as marriage registrars often charge high, local people said.

According to unofficial estimate, at least 55 per cent marriages are being solemnised without registrations in the poverty stricken areas.

Women are the sufferers of practices. Men divorce their wives at their will in absence of registrations. Once divorced, the women have little or no access to getting financial support from former husbands.

His father Khondokar Abu Kalam is a Principal Officer of Janata Bank of Khulna. Cadet Hasan Md Tanvir Mahmud, Roll Number 306759

## News snaps

## Drugs, firearms recovered

COMILLA, June 16: Drugs worth about Tk 6.5 lakh and 16 firearms were recovered in various drives across the district during the months of April and May, reports UNB.

Police also arrested 12 people during the period. The drugs included 3,638 bottles of phenisidyl, 174 bottles of Indian wines, 60 liters of homemade wine and heroin, foreign cigarette and hash. The recovered arms included two revolvers, one pipe gun, three LGs and 15 rounds of bullet, according to police.

## Mistake of postal workers

JAMALPUR, June 16: A letter, mailed from Madina city of Saudi Arabia to a person in Sherpur district, recently reached a wrong man in Jamalpur, reports UNB.

The letter was sent from Madina by an expatriate Bangladeshi to Abdur Razzak in Nalitabari upazila of Sherpur, but it was delivered to Barendra Chandra Dutta of Taraganj Bazar in Sadar upazila of Jamalpur on May 22. However, Barendra re-mailed the letter to its original receiver Abdur Razak. It's not only the one instance of harrowing mistakes of our postal workers. Each and everyday such incidents take place in the country due to negligence of the postmen, but those go unreported.

## Non-smoking zone

COMILLA, June 16: Local Sarak Bhaban has been declared non-smoking zone, indicating that a bigger success in anti-smoking campaign is not far away, reports UNB.

The decision was taken at a meeting in the office of local Sarak Circle (R&H) Executive Engineer on June 1. The office was declared as non-smoking zone after officers, employees and contractors at the meeting promised to give up smoking. Later, an anti-smoking rally was brought in the town.

## BCL dist unit dissolved

KISHOREGANJ, June 16: The executive committee of BCL district unit was dissolved on Saturday due to alleged infighting, reports UNB.

A full-fledged new executive committee of the district unit of pro-Awami League Chhatria League would be announced soon, party sources said. New committees for its town and Guru Dayal Government College units are also likely to be announced before long.