

Jamalur DIARY

20 hurt in bus accident

From Our Correspondent
JAMALPUR, June 27: At least 20 people were injured when a bus plunged into the Old Brahmaputra river at Jamalpur Ferry Ghat recently.

According to eyewitness and police, the driver of the bus lost control while boarding a ferry and plunged into the river, injuring 20. The injured were rushed to hospital.

Body recovered

A body of an old man was recovered at village Pachbaria under Islampur upazila recently.

According to police, the body of Saheb Ali was recovered from a paddy field. He had been missing since May 28. The man was murdered with sharp weapons. The body was sent to hospital for autopsy. A case was filed in this connection.

Youth mugged

A young man was robbed of Tk 2,000 at Shahapur in the town recently.

According to police, a group of armed muggers, waylaid Sakawat Hossain Bipul, a student of BA, and snatched the money at gunpoint. The muggers also stabbed him. A case was filed in this connection.

Housewife strangled

A housewife was strangled allegedly by her husband at village Masimpur in the town recently.

The victim was identified as Afroza Begum, 25. According to police, the husband, Mozibur Rahman, strangled his wife following an altercation. A case was filed in this connection.

15 injured in clash

At least 15 people were injured as rivals clashed at village Binna under Sarisabari upazila recently.

Witnesses said the rivals locked in the clash as a sequel to previous enmity. The villagers used sharp weapons during the clash. The injured were admitted to Sadar Hospital. A case was filed in this connection.

Youth crushed under wheels of train

A young man was crushed under the wheels of a train at Bidyaganj railway station in the district recently.

The victim identified as Idris Ali, 35. Details of the accident could not be known. The boy was sent to hospital for autopsy.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Executive Engineer Public Works E/M Division-1, Dhaka

Memo No-15-52/5047

Dated: 14-6-2000
31-12-1407 Bang

Tender Notice No 96 (99-2000)

Tenders in Bangladesh Form No 2911 in sealed envelopes on the basis of quoting item rate are invited from special first class/public class E/M contractors' firms with previous experience enlisted with the Directorate of Public Works, manufacturing establishment of manufacturing centrally airconditioning system of York Brand or local approved agents for the undermentioned work.

Last date of purchasing tender : 9-7-2000 (during office hours).
Date and time of opening tender : 10-7-2000 (at 12:30 PM).

Name of work	Amount of earnest money	Time limit for completion
Yearly conducting and maintenance work of 3x150 ton capacity centrally airconditioned controlling system at the Prime Minister's office and ICC at Teigaon.	2% of the quoted cost	36 (thirty-six) months

(01/07/2000 to 30/06/2001, 01/07/2001 to 30/06/2002 and 01/07/2002 to 30/06/2003)

Establishments mentioned above interested in participating in the tender must have the previous experience of successfully completion of work conducting, maintenance and servicing for at least 1 (one) year of at least 100 ton capacity aircondition machine in a single unit in any government/semi-government/autonomous establishments or organisation in a single tender and VAT registration from the National Board of Revenue.

The certificate for previous experience must be in the prescribed proforma (procureable from this office free of cost) and issued by the official of the concerned organisation (not below the rank of an Executive Engineer).

Application for purchasing tender must be made at least 7 (seven) days before the last date of selling tender to the Additional Chief Engineer (E/M), Public Works Directorate, Dhaka through the undersigned along with TIN registration or VAT registration certificate and attested copies of certificate for previous experience and enlistment register/certificate from the approved local agents of the manufacturer or certificate as manufacturer. Establishments getting permission can purchase tender on payment of specific fees in cash from Public Works E/M Division-1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/Public Works Mechanical Workshop Division/Public Works Timber Workshop Division/Public Works Eden Building Division, Dhaka and can drop the tenders till 12:00 Noon on the day of opening in the tender boxes kept at the Public Works E/M Division-1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/Public Works Mechanical Workshop Division/Public Works Timber Workshop Division/Public Works Eden Building Division, Dhaka. Contractors/ their representatives interested in participating tender may remain present during opening tender. Establishments getting permission can purchase tender form on payment of Taka 425/- (four hundred twenty-five) (non-refundable).

Earnest money as mentioned in the tender in the form of Bank Draft/PO/SDR/CD from any scheduled bank approved by Bangladesh Bank in favour of the Executive Engineer, Public Works E/M Division-1, Dhaka will have to be deposited with each tender.

If the contractors of Public Works Directorate who have permanent security money want to utilise the security money instead of earnest money (if the security money is sufficient), then the certificate regarding permanent security within maximum 3 (three) months from the Executive Engineer concerned must be submitted with the tender. If the amount of permanent security money is less than that of the required money, then the rest of the amount of the earnest money must be submitted in the method as mentioned above along with the tender. Applications of establishments with the expiry of the date of renewal of enlistment will be unacceptable. The duration of contract may be extended if necessary under the same rate and terms and conditions.

Tender notice, terms and conditions, rules and regulations and Bangladesh Form No 2911 etc. will be an integral part of the tender.

The undersigned reserves the right to accept any tender or reject all the tenders without assigning any reason.

A M Shafiqul Alam
Executive Engineer
Public Works E/M Division-1, Dhaka
Phone: 9569820

DFP-15756-21/6
G-1231

National

Chalan Beel Project turns into a bane for farmers

PABNA, June 27: The gigantic Chalan Beel Project, which was supposed to be a boon to the farmers, has turned into a real bane for them, reports UNB.

Split into four polders, ABC and D, the ambitious project was launched in 1977 with financial assistance from World Food Programme (WFP) and International Monetary Fund (IMF), aiming to boost farm output by saving croplands from flood onslaughts.

Under the project, embankments stretching over 12 thanas of Pabna, Natore and Sirajganj districts were constructed at a cost of Tk 43.46 crore. But faulty construction of the embankments continues to take its toll on the farmers.

Crops on vast tracks of land under the project, especially in Sirajganj and Atrai upazilas, are damaged each year due to faulty construction of its embankments. Hundreds of homesteads and educational institutions also come under flood on-

slaught every year. As per the project profile, the project was supposed to have 251 miles of flood control embankment, 187 miles of water extraction canal, 24 regulators, 58 outlets and inlets, 55 bridges/culverts and 132 buildings. But the project was not implemented accordingly.

The authorities had expected that additional crops worth about Tk 8.42 crore would be produced from some 2.13 lakh acres of land under the project area upon its implementation.

Keeping this view in mind, some 225 kms of flood protection embankment were constructed along west bank of the river Atrai from Mohadevpur in four years from 1978.

But the authorities stopped disbursing funds for the project in 1984 saying that 50 per cent works of the project had been reduced following the installa-

tion of a regulator at the confluence of the River Baral near Charghat.

The authorities, however, resumed implementation of the abandoned works in 1989 and constructed 129 miles more flood protection embankment.

But they did not install any sluice gates on the embankments, except the one at Kalamnagarpara, causing severe water stagnation inside the project area.

Meanwhile, countless cracks have developed on the embankments in Sutikgachha, Badhaighara, Bothakhali and Sutrana of Atrai upazila, and Nagarkandi, Ninggoni and Kotabari of Singra upazila as locals cut away soils from the embankments for smooth movement of their carts. A 4-km embankment from Ninggoni to Chalkpur has become vulnerable to floodwaters due to numerous cracks.

Water Development Board

was learnt to have proposed the authorities to set up two big pump houses in C block of the project to save croplands from water stagnation, a proposal refused by the donor agency.

An official, who would not disclose his name, said during heavy rain in Naogaon's Barendra area, rainwater rolls down fast inundating low-lying areas from Mohadevpur to Kalamnagar, causing colossal damage to crops.

The Atrai also bursts its bank with downpour, submerging croplands on its vicinity. Sometimes, the river water pours into the project area through the breaches of the embankments.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, addressing a public meeting here on January 12, 1999, had assured that necessary measures would be taken to resolve the Chalan Beel problem. But the government has failed to come up with follow-up programmes.



Now is the season of sweet fruits. Various fruits are now available in the markets of remote areas in Sirajganj district. Many villagers doing a brisk business of fruits in this season. Photo shows a little boy who is supposed to attend school, plying a rickshaw van full of jackfruits towards a rural market at Shahjadpur to sell the juicy item there. He is lending a helping hand to his poor father to earn something which they spend during the rest period of the year.

— Star photo

Jute farming declining in Chandpur

CHANDPUR, June 27: Jute cultivation has been gradually decreasing in all seven upazilas of the district, one of the largest

From Our Correspondent
jute producing areas of the country.

Low price of jute, which was once the prime source of export earning, over the years has frustrated the growers to cultivate the crop, often called the golden fibre.

Jute had been cultivated on about 30 thousand hectares of land during the pre-liberation period. At present, on average 10 thousand hectares of land are brought under the cultivation.

Only about seven thousand hectares of land have been brought under the cultivation this season here against the target of 10 thousand hectares.

Jute farmers said middlemen and brokers always control the price in local markets, depriving them of fair price.

Beside, many jute mills are reluctant to purchase jute directly from the growers, encouraging the middlemen and brokers.

UNB from Gopalganj says: A total of 4,300 hectares of land have been brought under jute cultivation in five upazilas in the district this season.

Agriculture Extension Department sources said tosha variety has been cultivated on 3,200 hectares, while local variety has been cultivated on 1,100 hectares.

Several demonstration plots have also been set up to acquaint the farmers with the modern methods of cultivation.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation has provided seeds and other inputs at fair prices

to farmers to make the programme a success.

BSS from Satkhira adds: Some 5,256 hectares of land have been brought under the cultivation this season in the district.

According to Agriculture Extension Department sources, tosha variety has been cultivated on 4,942 hectares, while local variety on 314 hectares.

12,000 hectares have been brought under the cultivation in Sadar upazila, 2,500 hectares on Kalaroa, 1,455 in Tala, 50 hectares in Debhata, 35 hectares in Kaliganj, 12 hectares in Assasuni and only four hectares in Shyamnagar upazilas.

Arsenic detected in 738 Narail tubewells

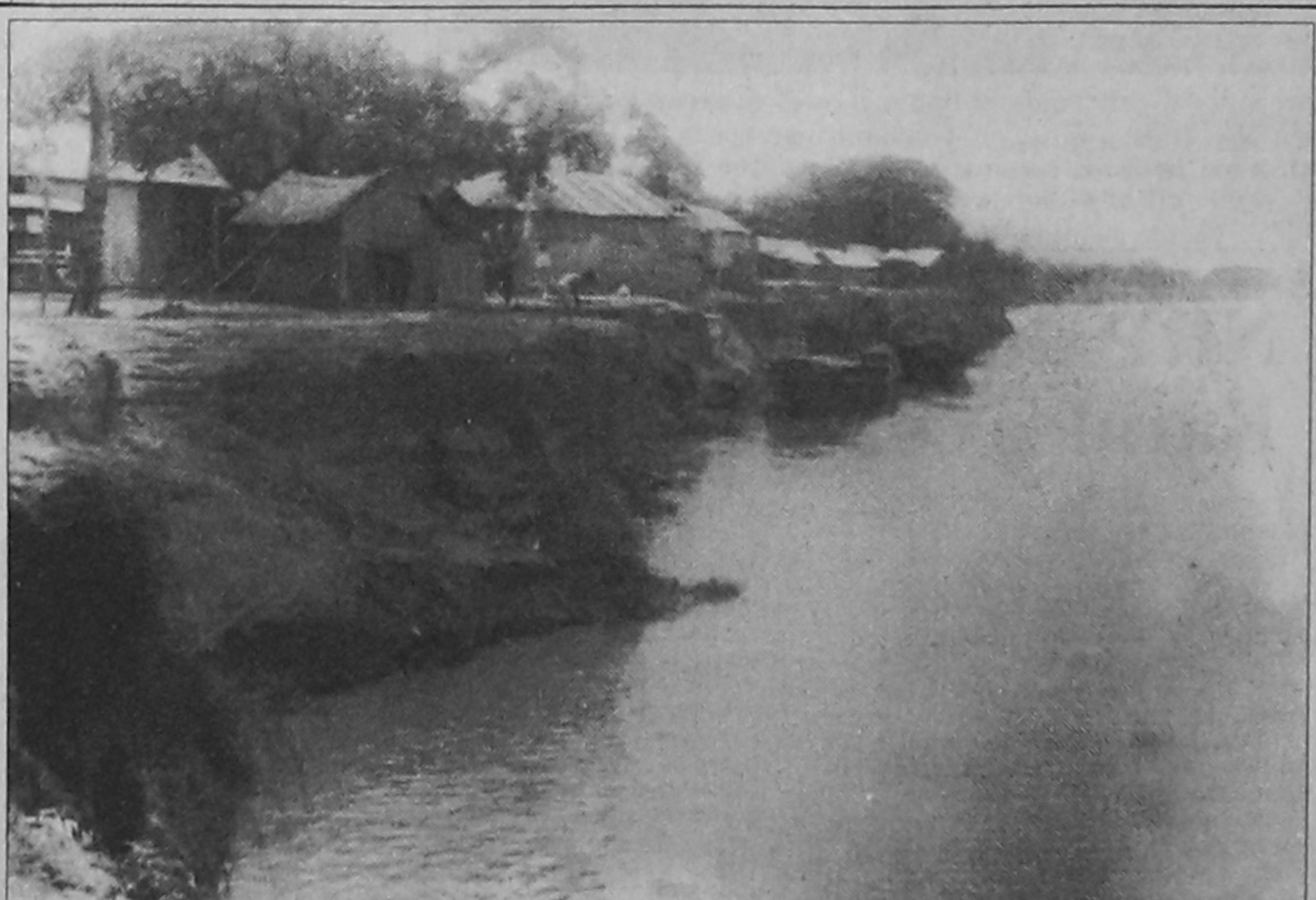
From Our Correspondent

NARAIL, June 27: Arsenic beyond permissible level has been detected in waters of some 738 tubewells in the district, causing panic among people.

Department of Public Health and Engineering (DPHE) recently conducted the drive and examined waters of 1,096 tubewells out of 7,696 here.

The DPHE officials also advised the residents in the area not to use the contaminated waters.

According to break-up, arsenic has been detected in 116 tubewells in Sadar upazila, 284 in Lohagara upazila, 226 in Kalua upazila and 112 in Narail municipality area.



Erosion takes serious turn at Kamarganj in Gaibandha with water level in the river Brahmaputra rising sharply.

Rangpur Municipality budget

From Our Correspondent
RANGPUR, June 27: Rangpur Municipality announced the budget of Taka 18,52,93,000 for 2000-2001 fiscal year.

Kazi Md Zuhun, Chairman of Rangpur Municipality announced the budget on June 18 at a special meeting of the municipality announcing that no new taxes have been levied considering the economic hardship of the citizens. In the budget Taka 88,71,000 were earmarked for expenditures in water supply sector while Taka 36,00,000 in education sector, Taka 21,30,000, Taka 40,10,000 in social and cultural sector and Taka 2,67,71,000 in establishment sector. A sum of Taka 52,88,000 was shown as excess amount.

Ctg Newspaper Hawkers' Multipurpose Coop Assoc's audit

Md Saifullah, Audit Officer and Upazila Cooperative Officer of Kotwali, Chittagong has urged the lenders and borrowers of Chittagong Newspaper Hawkers' Multipurpose Cooperative Association Limited to compare their accounts with that of the association within July 19 this year during the office hours at the office of the association at 4 Hajee Abdus Sattar Market, C D A Commercial area, Momin Road, Chirag Hill, Chittagong, says a press release.

This is because of beginning and closure of audit of the association within the period of July 12 to July 19 this year. Otherwise the accounts of the association will be deemed final. No separate verification slip will be issued for the purpose, the press release added.

Teenager killed in road accident

MYMENSINGH, June 27: A teenage boy was killed and 40 other people were injured in two separate road accidents on Dhaka-Mymensingh highway today, reports UNB.

Mahmuda wants to take higher edn in English



From Our Correspondent

MAGURA, June 27: Mahmuda Rahman secured 5th position in the combined merit list of Humanities Group in this year's SSC examination from Magura Government Girls' High School under Jessore Education Board.

Mahmuda obtained 862 marks and stand 3rd among girls with letters in all subjects except English.

She is the daughter of Mahfuzur Rahman and Momtaj Begum. Her father is an associate professor of Magura Government Hossain Shaheed Suhrawardy Honours College.

Mahmuda wants to take higher education in English.

Roadside restaurants pose threat to health

From Our Correspondent

CHANDPUR, June 27: Unhygienic roadside restaurants in the town are posing threat to public health.

Most of these restaurants have sprung up along Comilla Road, Railway Stations Road, Pal Bazar and Bikanibag Bazar areas. There has been a mushroom growth of these restaurants in the town in recent days.

Local people said authorities concerned do not take action against the restaurant owners.

Besides, these roadside restaurants and other shops create traffic jam, they added.

News snaps



The son and the daughter of AQM Shafiqul Islam, a retired Additional Deputy Commissioner, became delighted to see a Night Queen which blossomed in their garden at 9-30 pm on Thursday at village Parnanduali under Sadar upazila in Magura district.

— Star photo by Hossain Seraj

Rapist gets life term

KURIGRAM, June 27: A court here has sentenced a man to life term rigorous imprisonment in a rape case, reports UNB. According to prosecution, Bablu, son of Zahiruddin Sheikh, raped a 10-year-old girl at village Pakkerchhara in Bhurungamari upazila on June 21, 1997. After examining the evidences and witnesses, District and Sessions Judge M Shamsur Ali found Babul guilty of rape and handed down the judgement on Wednesday.

6 Customs officials suspended

JESSORE, June 27: Six Customs officials at Benapole Customs office have been suspended on charge of corruption and negligence to their duties, reports UNB.

The officials are Customs inspectors Mokbul Hossain, Gollam Sarwar, Shahidul Islam and Hosan Murshed, and customs superiors Harunar Rashid and Morshed Ali. National Board of Revenue in Dhaka issued the suspension order, officials sources here said.

Child labour up

NETRAKONA, June 27: Down by poverty, women and children of poor families are increasingly taking up odd jobs for survival, reports UNB.

According to an unofficial estimate, some 15,000 women and children are now engaged in various odd jobs and working for over 10 hours a day only to earn Tk 20-30. Many under-15 children are being compelled to take up hard jobs in order to support their poor families. They mainly work in hotels, restaurants, brick-fields, motor garages and workshops. Little boys are also seen digging earth, pulling rickshaws, selling newspapers and doing agricultural works. Despite hard labour, they cannot buy adequate foods to take, inviting various diseases.

Training for jobless youths

NARSINGDI, June 27: The Youth Development Department of has taken up a massive programme to solve the problems of the jobless young men and women here, reports BSS.

The Youth Development Department has been imparting training to jobless youths to make them self-reliant in different spheres of life. A total of 17,972 jobless young men and women received short term and long term training in the six upazilas during the last three years. These youths were imparted training on tailoring, cattle rearing, cow-fattening, poultry, forestry nursery, pisciculture, computer use and small trading. Besides, the department has provided 9,940 jobless young educated men and women in the six upazilas with loan of Taka seven crore on easy term to carry on trade to attain self-reliance.

Uplift projects progressing

SHERPUR, June 27: Fourteen development projects will be completed by the Sherpur Zila Parishad during this financial year at a cost of Taka 69,14,701, reports BSS.

The projects are being implemented under the Annual Development Programme (ADP). The projects are construction, reconstruction and repair of roads, highways, bridge and culverts, development of educational institution, construction of passenger shed along roads and highways, setting up tourist centres. A Zila Parishad source said that work on 5 projects including construction of three Union Parishad building will be completed this month.

Problem of traffic jam

SHARIATPUR, June 27: Traffic jam on the highway within the district is a regular problem, reports BSS.

This jam occurs because of holding hats and bazaars on the highway at various parts violating traffic rules. In view of this recurring problem government had long ago adopted a master plan to develop hats and bazaars. But it is a matter of great regret that the master plan has not yet been implemented.

Small credit programme

MADARIPUR, June 27: Social Welfare Department, Madaripur, has undertaken a massive small credit scheme to improve the socio-economic condition of the people and to create opportunities for self employment under Special Poverty Alleviation Programme, reports BSS.

A total of Taka 80 lakh 70 thousand has been distributed as small credit among 53,121 persons for 8621 projects under Self-employment Generation Programme for the Poor and Helpless in four upazilas and municipal areas. The loan has been given to run small business, cattle and poultry farming, harvesting and for many other income generating activities.



Bangladesh Power Development Board

সময়মতো সঠিক বিদ্যুৎ বিল পরিশোধ করুন
সরকারকে ফাঁকি দেয়ার প্রবণতা বন্ধ করুন

Re-Tender Notice

Sealed tenders are re-invited from interested buyers & firms for as it is where it is basis sale of 1(one) condemned motor cycle Dhaka-Sa-1302 MB Honda 100 CC-Model 1982 of the office of General Manager, Commercial Operation, PDB, 153, Motijheel, Dhaka. Detailed tender can be purchased on payment of Tk 50/= (fifty) only per set (non-refundable) in the form of Bank Draft/Pay-Order from any scheduled bank in favour of Deputy Director, Accounts, COAC, Dhaka subject to approval of Director, Commercial Operation up to 12-00 Noon of 5-7-2000 and tender should be deposited with earnest money at the rate 50% of the total quoted amount (Pay Order or Bank Draft issued in favour of Deputy Director, Accounts, COAC from any scheduled bank) at the same office by 12-30 PM of 6-7-2000. The remaining 50% should be cleared within three days and the vehicle taken delivery of.

Tenders will be opened on the same day at 12-30 PM in presence (if any) of the attending tenderers. It may be noted that the blue-book of the vehicle being lost, the blue-book, related papers of the vehicle can not be claimed.

The vehicle can be inspected as it is where it is during office hours.

It may be noted that the undersigned reserves the right to reject any/all tenders without assigning any reason.

Biddut/Jana-2375(3)/99-2000
DFP-15408-18/6
G-1232

Deputy Director (Admin)
Commercial Operation
PDB, Dhaka