

Registration of birth, death not maintained in Magura

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Registration of birth and death is not being maintained properly by the municipalities and union parishads in Magura district.

Magura district consists of 4 upazilas, 36 union parishads and a municipality. But the authorities here are allegedly indifferent about the birth and death registration. As a result, endless complications arise at the time of admission in the educational institutions or getting passport and visas.

Local elite alleged that authorities of the hospitals, clinics, maternity centres, mother and child care centres usually do not report the birth of a baby to the concerned authority. So, in most cases, the local bodies find it difficult to chalk out programmes to meet the needs of time.

An employee of Magura Municipality on condition of anonymity said that as the town dwellers have no adequate idea on the birth and death registration, the number of registration in this connection is very poor.

Under the provision of the existing law, parents are to register the name and particulars of a newborn baby with the local bodies like union parishads and municipalities within 90 days of birth. Besides, Family Welfare

Assistants (FWAs) and family planning inspectors under Family Planning Department also collect information of new born baby and register the name with local bodies. The parents of a new born baby have to pay a fine of Taka five if they fail to report in the local body within the stipulated time. If needed, the rate of death can easily be obtained from the places where they are buried or cremated. Nowadays the authorities ask for birth certificate from those who seek admission in institutions and for the purpose of jobs, passports and migration or immigration.

A secretary of a union parishad in Magura Sadar upazila informed this correspondent that they issued a considerable number of birth certificates in the last five years. USA immigration visa lottery owners collected these certificates.

Some birth certificate seekers complained that a section of staffers of the Health Department or municipality or union parishads usually claimed Tk 500 to 600 for a birth certificate

Talking to this correspondent a Sociology teacher in Magura, Khan Mazharul Haq said that motivation programme should be taken up for the birth and death registration because it is essential in every sphere of life.

Four trouble prone SSC centres cancelled in Barisal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

This year's SSC examination is scheduled to be held from March 15.

It is for the first time the SSC examination is going to be held under the newly formed Barisal Education Board where 57 thousand 62 examinees will appear from six districts under Barisal division.

Four trouble prone centres of Bhabanipur and Shikarpur of

Uzizpur upazila in Barisal and Indurkani and Shohadal centres of Pirojpur district have been cancelled by the Board authority.

A total of 63 vigilance teams having 2-3 members in each team have been formed for 60 examination centres.

A meeting was held recently at the conference room of the DC, Barisal, Md Alauddin in the chair with 30 secretaries of SSC and madrasa examination centres, UNOs of 10 upazilas of the district

including government and board officials to chalk out ways to hold the examination in a healthy atmosphere.

Prof Abdus Salam, Chairman, Barisal Education Board, said that stringent measures would be taken against the teachers if they are found helping any examinee adopt unfair means in the examination. He also added that all the secretaries and related officials have also been alerted in this regard.

Imam indeed!

UNB, Barisal

An imam of a mosque in Swarupkathi has allegedly killed his young wife by setting fire on her cloths for failing to extract dowry from her parents.

According to residents and police, Maulana Nuruzzaman, imam of Uttar-Pashchim Sohatala Jame Mosque, married Taslima, 20, daughter of Hafez Mohammad Liaqat Ali Mia of village Sutiakathi about two years ago. They were blessed with a son after a year.

Since the marriage Nuruzzaman has been pressing for dowry and torturing Taslima to realise the dowry. On February 24, he beat her. At one stage her hands and legs were tied with rope and locked her in the house. Then the brute husband poured kerosene on her body and set her on fire. She cried for help. Neighbours rushed in and rescued Taslima with severe burn injuries.

She was immediately taken to upazila health complex where her condition deteriorated. She was then taken to Barisal Medical College Hospital on February 26. After nine days Taslima succumbed to her injuries.

Elder brother of Taslima filed a case accusing four persons including Nuruzzaman for killing her.

Nuruzzaman along with his one-year-old son has been absconding.



Noted freedom fighter Maj Gen (ret'd) M S A Bhuiyan addressing a public meeting on Friday at Raghunathpur Government Primary School under Daudkandi upazila in Comilla district.

Two 'terrorists' held from Khalishpur

UNB, Khulna

Police arrested two alleged terrorists from Alamnagar crossing in Khalishpur area of Khulna metropolitan city on Tuesday.

Acting on a tip-off, police raided the area and arrested Humayun Kabir alias Kana Babu, son of Abdur Rashid of Jugonipasha village in Fullata upazila and his accomplice Mosharrar Hossain alias Mithu, son of Afzal Hossain of Snabekdanga in Sadar upazila of Bagerhat district.

Police said they were wanted in connection with a number of criminal cases including the Awami League leader SM A Rob Murder Case. Police took them on seven days' remand.

A report from Cox's Bazar says that police

arrested an alleged Arakani 'Harkat-ul-Zihad' activist from Jagiraghona area in Bara Moheskhal Island on Monday.

Police also recovered a sharp 'kirich' (a sharp weapon) from his possession. The arrested was identified as Kalimullah of Ghuinna village in Longdu thana of Arakan province of Myanmar.

He said his brother Harun, who is also a member of the 'Harkat', has been living in Pakistan for the last four years.

Another message from Patuakhali adds: Police arrested Badarpur union parishad chairman and district Krishak League general secretary Golam Sarwar from his old town residence on March 4.

Police said he was arrested for interfering in

government activities and beating an employee of local T & T office. They said Golam Sarwar along with his men went to the office and beat Momin Mallik as he failed to fix his telephone, which remained out of order for the last fortnight.

Police said that he at one stage confined him in a room of the office. Protesting the incident the employees observed work stoppage on Sunday. Later Mallik filed a case with the police against the chairman and his men.

Another report from Bogra says that police arrested a Jubo League cadre Abdul Matin, 25, son of Majbar Rahman of Chaksutrapur in the town, with a foreign made loaded pistol on March 3.

A case was filed against him.

Silver jubilee of girls' school in Faridpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

Silver jubilee of Saroda Sundari Girls' High School in Faridpur town was celebrated recently in a befitting manner.

To mark the occasion, a discussion followed by an attractive cultural function was held in the school premises with Md Shamsul Haq, Vice President of the School Managing Committee in the chair.

Police Super Md Abdul Mabud was the chief guest, while ADC

(Gen) Md Murad Hossain and ADC (Education and Development) Md Alauddin were the special guests. Among others, AKM Abdul Hakim, Amarendra Nath Das, Khondaker Sirajul Islam, advocate Subal Chandra Saha, Subal Chandra Mondal and Sumi Saha spoke on the occasion detailing the achievements earned and the odds the institution faced at the time of its inception.

Headmistress of the school Shahazadi Begum gave an address of welcome earlier.

Failing to collect tolls...

UNB, Barisal

Failing to collect tolls miscreants ransacked the house of senior college teacher at Kaunia area in Barisal town and injured him seriously on Tuesday.

The victim Prof Abdul Halim who is also a newsman said when he returned to his residence after buying a sacrificial cow on the day the local notorious terrorist Mosta along with his accomplices demanded tolls from him.

Later, on his refusal to pay the toll they damaged his house and beat him mercilessly.

Prof Halim, who authored a number of books, did not file any case with the police for fear of his

life. Another report from Kishoreganj adds: A gang of miscreants numbering 4/5 forcibly entered into the local Power Development Board office in Kishoreganj town on the night of March 2 and demanded tolls from the linesmen and guards failing to trace out the executive engineer.

On their refusal to pay the tolls the terrorists ransacked the office and beat them mercilessly. On information police rushed to the office at 2 am and arrested Rajib and Maznu from the spot.

Seriously injured lineman Sabuj Mia was rushed to the Mymensingh Medical College Hospital. A case was filed.

FEMA exchanges views for fair polls

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

Faridpur district unit of Fair Election Monitoring Alliance (FEMA) held a views exchange meeting at Bhanga KM College in Faridpur recently.

Advocate Golam Rabbani alias Babu Miridha, President of the unit presided over the meeting which was attended by Md Motaher Rahman, Principal of the college as the chief guest.

Among others, Abdul Ali Sikder, Tarek Ayub Khan, Saiful Islam, Sudhir Ghosh, Ayub Molla, Hafizur Rahman, Habibur Rahman, advocate Bashir Chowdhury, Abdul Halim, Ruhul Amin, Sunil Kumar, Md Amirul Islam and Bimal Chandra

Ghosh spoke on the occasion.

The speakers emphasised on the need for creating public awareness to hold the upcoming parliamentary election in free and fair way. They also urged the members of FEMA to hold meeting on broad based people and motivate them to cast their votes properly without being biased or scared for the growth of democratic norm in the country.

Rivals' clash leaves 20 injured in Magura

UNB, Magura

A fierce clash between two rival groups at village Nanihati in sadar upazila of Magura left 20 people injured five of them seriously on Friday.

Witnesses said Taiyeb Mollah's cow damaged the standing sugarcane crops of Akbar Mollah for which an altercation ensued between them.

Later both the groups equipped with lethal weapons attacked each other which lasted for several hours.

Seriously injured Badsha Mollah, 22, Ashiqur, 25, Momena Khatun, 50, Ashraf, 23 and Batul, 30 were rushed to the sadar hospital. Tension was prevailing in the area.

Another message from Patuakhali says that 10 people were injured in rival groups' clash at village Srinagar in Mirzaganj upazila on March 4.

Witnesses said the clash occurred between a maternal uncle and his nephew of the village over a land dispute.

Seriously injured Lutfar Rahman Sikdar, 48, Shahid, 18 and Sufia Khatun, 40 were rushed to the Mirzaganj Health Complex.

Another report from Barguna adds: A young man was seriously injured in a clash at Taltali Bazaar in Amtali upazila on holy Eid day night.

Witnesses said a quarrel ensued when Tanu, 25, brother of a local cinema hall owner asked Sagor of the bazaar to stop illegal screening of VCR films.

The rivals later assaulted Tanu grievously while he was returning home at night. Tanu was rushed to the Barguna General Hospital in a critical condition.

Tk one lakh medicines looted in Bogra

UNB, Bogra

Medicines worth Tk one lakh were looted in a daring dacoity at a medicine shop in sadar upazila of Bogra district early Friday.

Police said a gang of robbers numbering 10/15 stormed into the shop at Baghopara-Mahisbathan Road at 3 am. They beat the night guard Sukur Mia mercilessly and decamped with the medicines.

He was rushed to the Moha-mmad Ali Hospital in a critical condition. A case was filed.

Another report from Barisal says that muggers raided a computer shop at Bogra Road in the town and decamped with valuables worth Tk 2 lakh on Thursday night.

Police said the miscreants broke open the key of the shop at dead of night and took away cash and computer spares. Case was filed.

Another message from Jessore adds: Robbers looted valuables worth Tk 3 lakh of the passengers of four buses one after another on Jessore-Magura Road of Feb 24.

Witnesses said the muggers put barricade on the road near Gidaghat, beat the passengers indiscriminately and took away the valuables at gunpoint leaving three passengers injured.

The injured were admitted to Jessore General Hospital.

NEWS SNAPS

Unicef to set up mini health centres

BSS, Bandarban

United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) will set up 310 mini sanitation counseling and education centres in 11 union of three hill districts at a cost of Taka 10 crore. According to official sources, these centres will be set up under the Integrated Social Welfare Programme. The centres will provide knowledge of health and sanitation to the tribal people. They will also run primary schools for tribal children. Meanwhile, a large number of such sub-centres have been set up in the three districts.

Rice for distressed

UNB, Kishoreganj

Government has distributed 1,002 mts rice among the distressed people in 13 upazilas of Kishoreganj district on the eve of holy Eid-ul-Azha. The rice was distributed among 1,20 lakh families of 963 wards under 107 unions in 13 upazila and 39 wards under four municipalities of Kishoreganj district through VGF cards. Officials said each family received 10 kgs of rice under the VGF programme.

A total of 9,900 people in Sadar, 9,000 in Kotiadi, 5,400 in Bhairab, 6,300 in Kuliarchar, 5,400 in Nikla, 9,900 in Bazitpur, 8,100 in Itna, 5,400 in Mithamoin, 6,300 in Astagram, 9,900 in Karimganj, 6,300 in Tarail upazila, 5,400 in Hosanpur, 9,000 in Pakundia upazilas were distributed rice under the programme. Besides, 900 people in Kishoreganj pourasava, 1,200 in Bhairab pourasava, 900 each in Bazitpur and Kuliarchar municipality received the foodgrains.

Centenary festival of Satir Para School

BSS, Narsingdi

The two-day centenary festival of Satir Para K K Institute in Narsingdi district began amid much enthusiasm and fanfare in its premises on Friday. The festival was inaugurated with the hoisting of the national flag and release of balloons in the sky. The inaugural session was attended by a large number of former students and retired teachers of the school with Soroj Kumar Saha in the chair. A former student of the school, Major General Abul Hossain of Combined Military Hospital, was the chief guest while retired additional secretary Azizur Rahman and retired AIGP Mahub Haque, Deputy Commissioner of the district Nitesh Dev and Headmaster Abdur Rahim Khondaker spoke on the occasion as special guests. Former teachers and students of the school recalled their sweet memories of the school.

Training for youths

UNB, Chapainawabganj

Youth Development Directorate imparted training to 5,840 youths on different trades in last 12 years since 1988 aiming to make them self-reliant. They received training on cow rearing, poultry and fish farming, primary healthcare, stenography, tailoring and computer. Of the youths, 1,684 were given loans amounting to Tk 1.28 crore during the period.

Of the total loans, Tk 82.41 lakh was provided to 776 youths under Youth Training and Self-reliance Project while Tk 46.29 lakh to 888 youths under Family-based Self-reliance Programme. The number of self-employed youths received training under the arrangement of the directorate has now risen to 2,723.

Land development revenue realised

UNB, Pirojpur

Revenue Department has realised Tk 24.10 lakh as land development revenue from Pirojpur district in first six months of the current fiscal year.

Of the total, Tk 3.31 lakh was realised from Nazirpur, Tk 4.70 lakh from Nesarabad, Tk 1.40 lakh from Kaukhali, Tk 5.28 lakh from Sadar, 1.45 lakh from Bhandaria and Tk 7.96 lakh from Mathbaria upazilas. In the current fiscal year, the department has fixed a target to realise Tk 1.40 crore outstanding land development taxes.

Cottage industry needs patronisation

PHOTO FEATURE: DELWAR KABIR AND RAJAT KANTI GOSWAMI



Moulvibazar and Jhenidah districts are famous for bamboo based cottage industry. In Moulvibazar district there are many bamboo and cane clusters in its reserve forests. Unfortunately these are being destroyed indiscriminately by unscrupulous people. Strict measures should be taken to preserve such national asset. In rural areas of both the districts bamboo is the most important house building material. Besides, bamboo and cane are essential for manufacturing various household products like baskets and mats. (Top left) One woman worker of Saikupa Rishipara in Jhenidah district is seen manufacturing a bamboo product - Chatai, while (top right) another female worker is manufacturing a 'Dole' where villagers usually preserve paddy, (bottom left) a trader in Moulvibazar is showing a 'Sheetol Pati' (mat made of 'Murta' cane) to his client. This type of mats are very popular among all sections of people, specially rich people because it makes the scorching Summer comfortable. A piece of such mat is being sold from Taka 200 to 3,500 depending on quality and design, (bottom right) 'Tukris', bamboo made baskets specially used by day labourers for carrying earth are on sale in Moulvibazar town where people from far flung areas of the country come throughout the year to purchase bamboo and cane based cottage industry products.