NATIONAL

The Baily Star

SNAPS

Tk one lakh fish

looted from

hatchery

UNB, Jhalakati Miscreants looted fish worth over Tk one lakh from Kumarkhali Mora Nadi hatchery in Nolchhiti upazila on Saturday

Locals said the gang of 'Azim Bahini' swooped on the hatchery at night and looted fish at gunpoint.

Owner of the hatchery alleged that although the identified criminals looted fish from the hatchery several times earlier, police did not take action against them

Token strike by

B'baria traders

UNB, Brahmanbaria Shop owners in the town observed a token strike on Monday in protest against imposition of tax on them.

They also brought out a procession, held a meeting at Mukta Mancha and submitted a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner demanding withdrawal of the new tax.

Speakers at the meeting said the business community will go for a greater movement if the tax is not withdrawn

Hemp recovered: **Drug trader held**

A CORRESPONDENT, Bogra Bogra Sadar police recovered two kilograms (kg) of hemp and arrested alleged drug trader Afzal from Uttar Malgram in Bogra town on Monday. Acting on a tip-off police raided

Afzal's house, recovered the hemp and arrested him

A commendable <u>job</u>

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

A non-government organisation (NGO) -- Impact Foundation -- has been playing a commendable role in providing health services to the poor in Chuadanga district.

Impact Foundation started functioning in July 1993 with a view to rendering services to the handicapped women. Since then the it has been working in different fields.

On April 24, 2002 Impact Foundation opened a health centre styled Chuadanga Impact



Two more die in Dimla

Stand-off, road barricades

by UPDF, PCJSS

Tension mounts as

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari Water level of Teesta river started

rising again since Monday. Diarrhoea claimed two more lives in Dimla upazila on the day, raising the toll to nine in the last 10

The victims are Shaheed Mia, 3, of Dohol Para and Lucky, 4, of Jharsinhessor village.

At lease 426 people were treated for diarrhoea and other waterborne diseases in the last seven days and the number is rising, according to Dimla Upazila Health and Family

Planning Officer Nurul Islam Prodhom

A temporary medical camp has been set up in East Chatani union to combat the disease. He told this correspondent that

an acute crisis of saline is prevailing as the supply is exhausted. Water-borne diseases are spreading in the district, he said.

According to unofficial sources, about 5000 people have so far been attacked by diarrhoea. District health department officials said 10 medical teams are

villagers resist extortion

The gun-yielding UPDF activ-

ists are patrolling the area.

Surprisingly, the are trying to express solidarity with the villag-

ers; but that is only to oust the

commander to stop the crimes.

working in the worst affected areas ofDimla Acute scarcity of drinking water

is prevailing in Kaligong, East Chatnai, Khalisha Chapani, Baish Pukur, Khagakharibari and Naotara villages. Water purification tablets are also scarce, sources said.

The mighty Padma spares nothing on its way. (left) Half of Louhajang thana in Munshiganj has already gone into the river, (left) policemen hurriedly shifting furniture elsewhere.

Massive erosion by Teesta and its tributaries made at least 500 fami-lies homeless in Chotokhata, Dohelpara, Vendabari, Jharsinhessor Dauabari, Holdibari and Golmunda villages in Dimla and Sadar upazilas.

Govt to close down 3 jute mills in Khulna

The government has decided to close down People Jute Mills, Star Jute Mills and Eastern Jute Mills in the district next month. State Minister for Jute Lutfor

Rahman Azad disclosed this at a meeting at Platinum Jute Mills here on Saturday.

taken as the mills were incurring huge loss for the last several years. The state minister asked workers and staff of Platinum and Crescent Jute Mills to work sin-

cerely to make the mill profitable. He also cautioned them that the two mills might meet the same fate



Taming Jamuna while in spate!

A CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

Mighty Jamuna is eroding its bank, but the government is also not lagging behind to stop the havoc by the river now in spate.

Soil is being brought in boats from far away lands in Sirajganj to reconstruct three kilometres flood protection embankment from . Baroitoli to Pukuria in Dhunat upazila in Bogra.

The Water Development Board (WDB) started the work in mid-May, just before onset of the monsoon, at an estimated cost of Tk three and a half core.

WDB Sub-Assistant Engineer Iossain said tender was invited in PHOTO: AKM MOHSIN the first half of May. Three construction firms are dumping soil and sandbags. Local people claimed that as

earth-filling continued, portions of the repaired embankment were

devoured by the river. WDB officials however said about 45 per cent of the work has been completed and the rest will be done "within a few days".

Palm oil seized while being smuggled out

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Naogaon, Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) seized 118

kg palm oil in Alta Dighi border area while those were being smuggling to India. Two persons were arrested and the seized oil handed over to

Nazipur customs. Police said the arrested persons are Saiful and Babul. A case was

failing in SSC exam for 4th time

Trimohoni railway station and ended his life on Saturday. Railway police recovered the body and sent for autopsy.

He said that the decision was

UNB, Khulna



OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha A SSC candidate committed sui-

cide after failing in the examina-tion for the fourth time this year. Haji Munshi, 19, of Radh-akrishnaur village under Gaibandha Sadar upazila threw himself under a running train near

Masudul Hoque Memorial Community Health Centre at Kederganj Para here to render health services to the destitute people.

Every week, hundreds of

Rape victim's house torched for filing case

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Alleged rapists torched the victim's house as her family declined to withdraw the case filed against them.

Police said a housewife was gangraped at Sonatola village in Daulatpur upazila on June 29. The victim's husband filed a case on the following day.

The rapists then threatened him of dire consequences if he does not withdraw the case.

On Friday night, they torched the victims house.

Police said they heard of the arson, but none filed any case. None of the culprits could be arrested, they said.

ing indefinite road barricades on the Rangamati-Mahalchhori-Khagrachhori (RMK) road by villagers since Wednesday demanding an end to rampant extortion and other crimes by PCISS and UPDF.

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

Tension mounted in Kutukchhori

area in Naniarchar upazila follow-

Armed activists of UPDF (United Peoples Democratic Front), who dominate the area and want to rout their rival PCJSS from there, are pressing the villagers for withdrawal of the road barricades and the allegation of extortion against them, local people said.

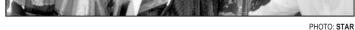
incident. The villagers resorted to picketing on the road on Monday. But no

Chittagong Hill PCJSS (Parbattya Chattagram Jana (CHT) Peace Agreement in 1997 with the then Awami League gov-Sanghati Samity), they said. After raising barricades at severnment. UPDF opposes the agreeeral points on the road, representament.

tives of the villagers also submitted The PCJSS is trying to take memoranda to the deputy com-missioner and the Rangamati army control of the area for a safe pas-sage to 'Kalapahar' and adjoining hills. Three foreign engineers were When contacted, army sources abducted from Kalapahar some said troops have been sent to the years back.

yesterday, the local people said.

area to prevent any untoward The PCJSS bid to establish supremacy in the area led to several bloody incidents with UPDF.



Teachers and students of Shatpar Dinonath Goalichandra High School in Gpopalganj Sadar upazila planting a coconut sapling to launch a tree plantation campaign.

A good initiative Bravo, Rangpur cadets **OUR CORRESPONDENT,** Chuadanga

A child marriage was stopped at the initiative of the human rights cell of Chuadanga Bar Association and a localNGO.

Wedding of schoolgirl Boby Khatun, 10, was scheduled to be solemnised with Sajjad Hussain,18, on Friday. Boby, a student of class six at

Jhinuk Government Primary School, is the daughter of one Babu of Palash Para in the town.

Parents of Boby and Sajjad stopped the marriage when advocate ASM Abdur Rouf and some men from the NGO -- WAVE told them that it would spoil their lives and that it would be illegal as both were teenagers.

Woman gets 18 yrs' RI for keeping illegal arms

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A special tribunal here sentenced a woman to 18 years imprisonment for possessing illegal firearms. The convict is Ferdousi Khatun.

22, wife of one Tafazzel Hossain of Kalisangkarpur area of the town. Ferdousi was arrested with one Shutter Gun and six bullet on

February 6 last year. Judge Mahabubul Alam pronounced the verdict recently

leader stabbed

in Nilphamari

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nlphamari

A Chhatra Dal leader -- Mizanur

Ratiman Mithu was seriously

injured when attacked by some

Monday night.

Chhatra Dal

'Democracy Festival' organised by Rupantar, an NGO, was held at the Zia Hall on Monday. Charge d'affaires of US embassy in Bangladesh and Director of UŠAID Banladesh Mission Gene V George

from and Narail districts attended the programme.

presided over by editor of the Daily Tribune and convenor of the festival committee Ferdousi Ali.

It was addressed by Miss Carol Horning of the USAID, two Union Parishad chairmen, ward commissioners, journalists, women law yers and educationists.

speech underscored need for integrating grassroots level people in development programmes and institutionalising democracy.

Decentratisation of power is the only way to achieve this, he said.

discussion, seminar, folk songs, exhibition of handicrafts and a cultural function.

3 killed, 40 hurt in road mishaps in Mymensingh, N'ganj

Bhagan under Trishal upazila.

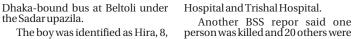
The injured were admitted to Mymensingh Medical College

the Sadar upazila

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Three persons were killed and 40 injured in road accidents in Mymensingh and Narayananj yesterday, BSS reported.

In Mymensingh, a least two eople, including a woman, were killed and 20 injured in two road accidents at Beltoli and Bhagan on the Dhaka-Mymensingh Highway. Police and witnesses said a boy was crushed under the wheels of a



The boy was identified as Hira, 8, son of Shamsuddin of Degarkanda injured in a road accident at Jalkuri village under upazila. under Fatullah police station on the In another accident, an uniden-

Dhaka-Narayanganj road. The dead was identified as Abdul tified woman died on the spot and Latif, 45, of Srinagar Kamarga under 20 others were injured when a Dhaka-bound bus coming from Sherpur fell into a roadside ditch at Munshiganj district.

Police said the accident took place when a Dhaka-bound bus from Narayangj collided head-on with another bus.

Of the injured, Atiar Rahman, 47 Robin, 7, Nurjahan, 8, Suleman, 35, Humayun Kabir, 32, Lutfor, 50, and Yasmin were admitted to Khanpur General Hospital.

One killed in feud over releasing water from crop field

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

One person was killed and another was injured in a feud over releasing water from a crop field in Tomal village under Kishoreganj upazila Monday night.

Haren Barman was releasing stagnant water from his field as it was damaging his vegetable crop. His neighbours Gopi Sheel and Lal Chand Sheel objected saying too much of water released into their fields will affect paddy crop.

At one stage they attacked Haren and stabbed him. He died on the spot and another person --Haridas -- who went there to settle the feud, was also injured.

Police arrested Gopi and Lal Chand after a case was filed. The in a critical condition. two are barbers by profession.

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur The Rangpur Cadet College set a

record in the SSC examination this All the 27 examinees from sci-

ence group got GPA-5 (A+). Guardians, students and teachers held a 'victory celebration' at the college auditorium, marking the grand achievement.

The successful students are Ahsan, Iftekher, Shuvra, Rizwan, Khaleed, Abrar, Shafawat, Arafat, Shakhawat, Azad, Nadeem, Sayeed, Zaman, Rajee, Rahman, Sabbir, Taoshif, Hashim, Ishtiaque, Ruhul, Murshed, Mubashir, Arif, Noman, Iqbal, Arefin and Amin.

Democracy Festival held in Khulna

inaugurated the festival. Over 1000 elected representatives, political leaders and artistes Khulna, Bagerhat, Satkhira

The inaugural function was

Gene George in his inaugural

unidentified miscreants at his house at Sarkar Para in the town

The miscreants hacked him The programme included with a machete. He was taken to Rangpur Medical College Hospital

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna