

**Editing and Translating for the Countryside Lens at *The Daily Observer*
: Journalism and Rural Bangladesh**

Tasnia Farin

14103053

Department of English and Humanities

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BRAC University, Dhaka, Bangladesh

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: Journalism and Rural Bangladesh**

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By
Tasnia Farin
Student ID: 14103053

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Acknowledgement

At the very first I am very thankful to the Almighty Allah for giving me strength and blessing me to be loved and to love in this world. In this beautiful world, the persons who supported me at every steps of my life are my parent. Expressing my gratitude toward them is not enough. Thus, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to my father Farhad Hossain who always inspired me at every situation. And the beautiful lady, my mother, Shamima Sultana who always nurtured and supported me who has the right to mention her name in this report. They are the reason of my position I am standing today. Without their unconditional love, care, support and encouragement would not be possible to go ahead. I could never continue my education without them.

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Tasnia Farin

Abstract

The following paper is the proper reflection of a journey of an intern. Basically, the report entitled 'Editing and Translating for the Countryside Lens at The Daily Observer: Journalism and Rural Bangladesh' is the report produced by me to make a bridge between academic and practical knowledge, the various usage of theories that are exemplified with proper references as well as actual obligation of task.

Here I have attempted to make an application of the theory that I have learned in the academic courses. Firstly, after a brief introduction, I have tried to give a brief history of *The Daily Observer*. Then I have shared my experience that I gained during my internship. Afterwards, I have arranged an environment of my workplace and shared some of my writing that has been published. In the next, I have analyzed theories with example and tried to relate theories with my works. Moreover, I have put references of some authors to produce an efficient report.

Lastly I came up with a conclusion which is basically my perception regarding my work that shows that academic knowledge assists me to boost or develop the career.

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Chapter One: Introduction and a brief History of *the Daily Observer*

Life always forces one to recall their childhood memories. Implementing childhood desire sometimes can make anyone wonder. I never thought that life can turn my childhood games into reality. In my childhood, I always played journalist game like whatever I got in front of me, for example body lotion bottle or TV Remote or others and used those as mike and then started acting like a news reporter. I yet recall that I used to read newspaper loudly like a news presenter would do. When my family was involved in various activities at home, I used to ask them several question by using my self-made-mike. From then, journalism always took my attention. In addition to that, my father is a journalist and I always wanted to be like him. He is my inspiration and my pride. I always noticed his adventurous life. I noticed how he passed every second with risk that was adventurous to me. In addition, life is more exciting when one's childhood dream and studies match.

A saying goes that opportunity comes once in a lifetime, not to be avoided and it inspired me to follow my dream. I never thought I would get chance to study in Journalism. Once I got the chance to get admitted into BRAC University, I started my study on Bachelor of Arts in English. Curiosity is an integral part of being a journalist and that interests me. Therefore, when I chose to do my under- graduation on Bachelor of Arts in English, then I did not think twice to choose media and cultural studies as my area of concentration.

As a media major student, internship is required and I got chance to do my intern in advertising media or audiovisual media, or print media sector. I choose to do my internship in a well renowned newspaper because I thought it would help me to gather more experience and knowledge and would also help me to become the voice of the unheard. Furthermore, I believe this is a noble profession as the journalists can help bring out the truth of matters and thus help

form public opinion. My curious mind always hunted me to know how newspapers are being written, how they collected news, how informative articles are written. Thus, I decided to complete my internship at *The Daily Observer* because of its reputation, which is known as one of the leading English Newspaper in Bangladesh, because apart from other newspapers they give emphasis on people's right in the country. The experience of working as an intern at *The Daily Observer* is fascinating and working constantly 12 weeks was enough to mold me to advance my career further. I am really glad that, I decided to work there because I think the experience I had acquired in this area is a good preview of my career and future. However, I worked in the countryside sector starting from January 20th, 2018. While working there, I not only got the opportunity to practice what I have been taught but also I got the opportunity to experience a practical environment of a workplace.

Academic and professional goal of internship:

The Department of English and Humanities aims to promote studies in English and Humanities that easily can foster critical thinking and analytical skills. Besides, studying in Media and Cultural Studies helps to interpret the ever-changing cultural traditions and gain insights into global events or personal experiences. In addition to that, the reason for doing my internship was to achieve practical knowledge and experience. During my internship, I have gained practical experience of the newspaper world which was related to my academic courses as well. Working as an intern was joyous because it involves practical works which was making me more interesting as I was noticing that I was doing exactly what I have done in my academic courses. Internship can be defined as the process which provides the experience of implementing the acquired knowledge practically. Furthermore, the courses I have done as my major helped me to overcome every single obstacles practically as well as improve my practical knowledge, such as: ENG 331:

Cultural studies; helped me to look at the relations between society and literary as well as cultural production, it also helped me to understand the process of cultural production in our own society. ENG 333: Globalization and The Media; enabled me to focus audio visual media and the creation of global culture. ENG 401: Editing; helped me to understand the role of editors like marking the typescript, structure, headings, spelling, vocabulary, grammar correction, punctuation etc. ENG 404: Copywriting; this course is about preparing copy for print media, copywriting for radio, television and films, copywriting for social marketing, preparing texts for brochures; designing campaigns; working with graphics and layouts. The course which was highly relatable to my internship and that is ENG 440: English for the Print Media; associated me to know write for newspapers, journals and other print media. These courses gave me an understanding of how a news story is organized and introduced me to the different aspects of journalistic writing like news reporting, feature writing, op-eds, obituary, planning a story and so on. Another effective course that I learnt is ENG 465: Translation Studies which helps me to solve the problems of translation from Bangla to English and vice versa. Along with that, the other courses from academic study also helped me to participate in the activity that I wanted to. The academic knowledge prepared me to involve in practical knowledge. Moreover, the knowledge of Journalism already helped me to advance my future carrier.

In terms of defining professional goal of doing internship, generally it refers to the acquisition of skill, knowledge and practical behavior as an intern. To me, there are certain professional goals of internship which will not only develop my skill for future but will also boost my career ahead. As an intern, I learnt how the newspaper industry works on a daily basis. Along with that, I got to know where the news gets published and procedures which are followed before publishing the news. Moreover, while working in *The Daily Observer* I received many

constructive feedbacks, not only from my supervisor but also from my desk mates. There is a belief that, feedback will give one success whether it is negative or positive feedback, a constructive feedback or criticism helps one to improve. As an intern I got the chance to improve my professional skill one step forward by going through this constructive feedback. Furthermore, while doing internship, I got in touch with many people surely effective for my communication skill which is very much needed in terms of becoming successful in life. Even in an intern capacity; one should strive to represent him/herself in a professional and businesslike manner. The input one gets from colleagues and the way one interacts with them can help him/her start defining their professional persona. They can learn what approaches and interactions are effective and which ones are not. Strive not to just observe the work environment, but to be an active participant in as many ways as possible. After all, a quote can be stated by Albert Schweitzer that, success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If I love what I am doing, I will be successful.

A brief History of *The Daily Observer*:



Logo of *The Daily Observer*

When the newspaper *Bangladesh Observer* stopped its publication in 2010, *The Daily Observer* came into its existence 1st February, 2011. Firstly, *The Daily Observer* was also published on 1949 and it was called *The Pakistan Observer* following the independence from British rule. It had a great role in shaping public opinion in East Pakistan. Since East Pakistan became independent as Bangladesh, the name was changed to *The Bangladesh Observer* and the owner was the Observer Group. Moreover, it was founded by Hamidul Haque Chowdhury. It performed a strong and independent editorial policy that represented the personality of the owner Hamidul Haque Chowdhury and editor Abdus Salam. It kept on ventilating public grievance with no fear. Then *The Daily Observer* took its place with the news editor Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury in 2010 after *The Bangladesh Observer* stopped its publication. Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury re-founded *The Daily Observer* with a slogan “We stand for People’s rights.”



Fig.1: The front page of *The Pakistan Observer*, *The Bangladesh Observer* and *The Daily Observer*.

However, there are two medium of news that *The Daily Observer* provided, one is *Observer Online Desk* and other one is *Printed Desk*. Furthermore, *Printed Desk* contains with 11 sections with 20 pages like: Front page where includes high priority news, then miscellaneous, city news, foreign news, editorial, op-ed, countryside, news, art & culture, health and nutrition, sports and business. Additionally, *Online News Desk* is to provide updated news that happen several things in a day. All type of above sections is included in online news side in order to update news in time as it takes time to post news in the printed newspaper. Among others, Life & Style, Observer Tech, Women's' own, Law & Justice, Young Observer, Book Review, Literature, Eid Magazine are also available in *Observer Online Desk*. Through these, *The Daily Observer* gains its highest popularity.



Fig. 2: The front page of *Observer Online Desk*

The Experience that I gained at *The Daily Observer*:

Internship is a medium to learn and gain professional knowledge. Therefore, I believe that if a new learner is somehow failed to manage his/her work, it is nothing to be embraced. In this part of the report I would like to talk about the environment of *The Daily Observer*. To create gainful work, a working environment plays a very important role. The attitude of *The Daily Observer* towards interns was very exceptionally liberal and welcoming that encourages new learners to learn and appreciate the work. At the very first day, I was nervous whether I will be able to handle such works which I had never done before. On my interview day, the Editor Iqbal Shobhan Chowdhury gave me option that whether I will be comfortable in field or desk and I chose the desk option, my supervisor SM Saifuddin, in-charge of Countryside Desk, met with me and led me to my desk. On information, they were given me the position of sub-editor in 'Country Side' sector. I had to work 5 days in a week. At least, 8 hour-works I had to do in a day. My supervisor, my colleagues and other mates helped me in learning work techniques and rules for newspaper. It is heard that working in a media sector, is easy to get independent and friendly environment. Alike the other newspaper organization, *The Daily Observer* is also maintaining this policy. Therefore, I need not to be formal with people there. Here, everybody addresses each other 'Bhaiya' or 'Apu' instead of addressing 'Sir' or 'Madam'. This kind of attitudes can help new interns to be more friendly and adjusted with the environment. Throughout my internship period, I had the opportunity to publish number of articles on country side section. The nature of my work varied from writing successful stories, writing current incidents, presenting events, collecting reports, writing obituaries, weather condition and etc. Moreover, I also had to edit articles and cut unnecessary information and make it as shorter as possible. In addition, I had to translate articles into English with writing easiest and understandable words and easiest eye-grabbing headlines by

targeting the audience. Their reports gave me an idea that how I should put all the information relatively connected as well as making a suitable headline of the news from Bangla to English. It was quite tough to be adjusted with their format, though I managed to come up with headlines which depict the idea clearly and effectively. However, working in a newspaper organization was an enormous experience in my whole lifetime and I am pretty sure that the skill and knowledge I gained, will serve me further in the future.

Chapter Two: Learning to write and edit with the Countryside Desk

Bangladesh is still a rural country. A statistic shows that at least 64.21 percent of our total populations live in the rural area. The rate of rural population is decreasing gradually because in 1960, around 94.86 percent populations live in rural side (Rural, n.p, n.d). The culture and the civilization of our country have grown up from the heart of our villages. Therefore, it becomes important for the city dwellers to know how the culture, tradition have been developed from the agrarian society. The fact may not well recognized by the urban population that we city people are depended on the rural people because we are living our lives easily only for them. The foods we eat are cultivated by the farmers living in the rural Bangladesh. Moreover, it's a great initiative by TDO to run this desk as it is spreading some of the attention to those villages of Bangladesh which are ignored by the government, the public administrative offices. *The Daily Observer* always feels free to share successful stories of anyone that city people also need to know. They took their initiative in creating countryside sector for the city people so that city people can also be aware of the condition of other districts except Dhaka. In countryside, many incidents are happening everyday such as road accident, and unnatural death, and sudden weather change, high growth of crops or losses of crops. If people loss their crops or get benefitted by their high growth crops, *The Daily Observer* shares their story from every aspects like how they suffered, how they overcome the obstacles, or how they succeeded. Basically, *The Daily Observer* formed this segment to create such awareness.

Generally, the countryside desk is the central place where journalists, reporters, editors, producers, along with other staffs work to gather district's news to be published in a newspaper or an online newspaper or magazine. There I enrolled as a sub-editor. In this segment, there are three people excluding me that we worked together. As reporters sent their reports which cannot be

edited by one, hence we used to divide our work so that we can cover all the news. We had to translate the reports in a proper way; some reports are in English which we had to edit as well. On information, we also had to finalize the news stories which are publishable. The tasks may sound like easy but it is not that easy because to finalize the stories we had to always focus on our target readers. Besides, there are many reporters from Rajshahi, Barisal, Comilla, Chittagang, Jessore, Sylhet and other sub-districts as well. However, our main target readers are the city people that we aim to let them know the fact of rural peoples' livelihood. We feel that this readership is important to address because still Rural Bangladesh are lagging behind. The communication system is not that improved that people need. Moreover, illiteracy is also a biggest problem. People do not know about health and sanitation as well. Most of them are involved in agriculture but they do not know how to cultivate scientifically. There are many poor and landless farmers. They live from hand to mouth. So the pace of rural development is very slow. The remotest village areas of the country are very backward in all respects. Having such barriers, yet many people are taking their own step to improve themselves.

Besides, we, the team of Countryside Desk, share many successful stories so that our target readers can get to know and be encouraged. We feel that sharing successful stories, our unemployed readers may get encouragement and inspiration. Moreover, a successful story makes a reader to feel satisfied. Reader may gain more attention to have a glance our more stories. Therefore, almost every day we try to share at least one successful story. Along with these, we also provide the daily incidents that happen regularly. Such as, road accidents, or some other unnatural death always occurred. We believe that these need to share always so that people can get more conscious in their journey or their lives. Among others, sudden weather change can always

happen in a place. The temperature are in Dhaka, may not be the same in other districts. So, we also feel free to share the sudden weather change of any district.

Writing as an Intern:

In brief discussion on country side desk, this desk covers all the rural area of our country. This desk looks at the rural area in broader lens where the emphasis is not only on the news that are prominent but also every itty-bitty aspect. To illustrate the idea of news covering as whole some news which are done by me are given below:

Feature on Successful Story:

Asgar Ali dreams of being self-reliant through turkey farming

Published : Sunday, 4 February, 2018 at 12:00 AM Count : 238

Our Correspondent

BARISAL, Feb 3: Asgar Ali of Ulania Village under Mehendigarj Upazila of the district, is hoping to become self-reliant through turkey farming.

Asgar, 35, has 11 turkeys in his farm, and he is working day and night for success. Besides keeping turkeys of various colour, Asgar also rears poultry in his farm. Turkey is a new addition to the local poultry industry. Its scientific name is *Meleagris*. It is native to the North Americas. In Bangladesh, it is known as 'Turkey Bird'. As its meat tastes well, so it has great commercial possibility.

Asgar said, "Turkey is a gentle bird. It grows up faster than chicken. Besides granular foods, it takes grass and vegetables. It gives about 80 to 100 eggs in a year. Per half (four pieces) egg is sold at Tk 800. I started the farm with 30-day chicks. Per pair of 30-day chick is sold at Tk 3,000."

He further said, "Turkey can be reared at home or farm. I have a total of 11 big and small turkeys at my farm. A female turkey weighs about five to six kilograms while a male one weighs about eight to 10 kg. Turkeys are not affected with serious diseases, only chicken pox vaccine needs to be administered. Per kg turkey meat is sold at Tk 400 to 500. So, it is a profitable business."

Additional District Livestock Officer Dr. Md. Nur-e-Alam said, "Though turkey looks like hen, it is bigger in size. It grows faster than the broiler poultry. A turkey gains five kg or more weight within six months. Its meat is rich in protein, zinc, iron, potassium, Vitamin B-6, phosphorus and less fat. Moreover, there are more amino acid and tryptophan in the meat which increases man's disease-resistance capacity."



Fig. 3: News story about self-reliance by turkey farming

The above feature presenting, a man named Asgar Ali from Barisal plans to be self-reliant through turkey farming. He already started to take the initiative to be self-reliant by working day and night for success. Throughout his story, we shared how many chicks he adopted, how many eggs a turkey can give in a year, how it can become a great commercial possibility and etc. This story can help the reader to be pleased and inspired.

Helping Cold-hit people

Cold-hit people get blankets in Kurigram, Panchagarh

Published : Wednesday, 24 January, 2018 at 12:00 AM Count : 232

Our Correspondents

Print A+ A- A



Cold-hit poor people got blankets in two districts- Kurigram and Panchagarh, in three days.

KURIGRAM: Sufia Kamal Smriti Pathagar (SKSP) distributed blankets among the hundreds of helpless and cold-hit people in Holokhana of the district on Monday morning.

A. K. M. Dabir Uddin, president of SKSP, and Abul Kalam Azad Dulal, headmaster of Holokhana Secondary School and general editor of SKSP, were also present at the function.

On information, since 2009, this voluntary organisation has distributed blankets among the cold and helpless people, education materials to the poor students of the area, and given financial assistance to the marriage of daughters of the poor fathers and the helpless as well.

PANCHAGARH: United Comissarial Bank Limited (UCB) undertook blanket distribution programme among extreme poor people of the district on Saturday and Sunday.

A total of 1,000 blankets were distributed to the ultra-poor people of Boda, Atwari, and Tentulia upazilas of the district.

Additional Managing Director of the UCB Limited Md. Shawkat Jamil, Executive Vice-President of the UCB Javed Iqbal, Rangpur Branch Manager Md. Mosfiqur Rahman, Upazila Chairman of Tentulia Rejaul Karim Shahin, and UNO Saniul Ferdous distributed the blankets among the poor people at a distribution function.

Saniul Ferdous has expressed his gratitude to the UCB for coming to a remote area and giving blankets to the ultra-poor people of the area.

UCB undertakes blanket distribution programme every year as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities. This year the distribution took place in Panchagarh with the focus on the need of the distressed people during this winter.

Shawkat Jamil as Chief Guest of the blanket distribution programme expressed his feeling of being part of this good gesture on behalf of the UCB.

Fig. 4: News story about distributing blankets among helpless

The above story is presenting the initiative of different organizations that distributed blankets among the helpless and cold-hit people in three districts. Here, we wrote which organizations had taken the initiatives, who were the guests at the events, at where the events inaugurated etc. A reader can get amazed throughout the news and may help them to create event like this according to their capacity. Because, we can see many younger who are taking this type of initiatives to help poor people.

Welcoming the new season:

Moreover, we also welcome every occasion or season through our writing. Likewise, when spring is about to come we always tried to show changes of the nature with attaching pictures (See appendix-1).

Living and earning system of the farmers:

Besides, we also feel the necessity of spreading the living and earning system of the farmers. For instances, Kushtia local farmers were very happy over bumper wheat

production. Therefore, they were earning their profit by investing their affordable amount (See appendix-2). We mentioned earlier that, we countryside team always focus on the rural country so most of our news are about living and earning system of the farmers. Like Kushtia farmers, many farmers from other regions, become self-reliant and changed their lot through cultivating their crops for favorable weather and timely supply of necessary agro-input and also getting fair price of their produce. Along with that, all farmers may not experience same. Some other farmers may get frustrated due to their losses of crops for sudden rain. For an example, Rajshahi local farmers were frustrated over the low price of potato during the start of the season. They were planning to cultivate brinjal, chilli, arum, maize and Boro paddy on the fields after harvesting potato. But they are worried that they might not start the cultivation of other crops if potato is not harvested in time for its current low price in the market (See appendix-3). This is how we always provide our news stories with showing every aspects by targeting our readers.

Reckless driving breaking Dreams:

Reckless CNG drivers make passers-by handicapped at Companyganj

Published : Tuesday, 17 April, 2018 at 12:00 AM Count : 105

Our Correspondent

Print A+ A- A



NOAKHALI, Apr 16: Many passers-by are becoming physically handicapped and some of them die due to careless movement of CNG auto-rickshaws on different roads of Companyganj Upazila in the district. Though the number of accidents is rising day by day, the local administration is not taking any step. According to a survey, many rickshaw-pullers turned CNG drivers, but most of them don't have licences. As per the traffic rule, a CNG driver must look at both sides of a diversion road before moving from another road, but many drivers are not following the rule. As a result, the vehicles of the main road lose control, causing accidents. However, there are some CNG owners' associations, but none of them provides any training to the CNG drivers. Sramik Union General Secretary (GS) Abul Bashar said, "We took an initiative for training the CNG drivers, but it did not work; it will be better if the local administration provides us assistance." Officer-in-Charge of Companyganj Police Station Rabiul Haque said, "If president and GS of Sramik Union come forward, we can help them."

Fig. 5: News story about reckless driving

Additionally, the accidental incident meets almost all the characteristics of news. Moreover, these sorts of news have become common phenomenon that every day I got accidental

news. The stated news covered how the reckless driving of CNG driver causing not only life damage but also making people unable to work.

Sudden weather change:

Furthermore, we also represent the weather temperature because we city people feel its necessity how rural people passed a day when a temperature becomes high or low. Likewise, news from Barisal where the medium cold wave sweeps over early morning but later temperature increases especially at noon from the Bengali months of Agrahayan and Poush. The lowest temperature was 6.7 degrees Celsius on January 8 last in Barisal. When the winter starts to go away, the temperature starts to rise up. From the beginning of spring, summer season takes its place (See appendix-4). This soft news is also important for people to know because each incident is important.

On information, newspaper is a mirror of the world. As it is a storehouse of the information, newspaper carries a great deal of news and information. In other words, “Newspaper expresses values; the entrepreneurial zeal of the reporter, interviewing people, being places first” (Barnhurst 107). Newspapers cover many topics such as politics, society, economy, science, environment, business, sports, fashion and entertainment etc. Reading newspaper is like one’s both eyes and ear are opened as well as being aware of the world around them. In the era of globalization, newspaper plays a vital role. Usha M. Rodrigues in her article “Print Media in the Era of Globalisation” stated that, newspaper brought increased awareness, a growing consumerism, and civic participation in their wake, and no one was left untouched. Readers, civil society, politicians all experienced a media saturation that was rapid as it was new (57). Moreover, newspaper takes the reader a ride to current condition or what is happening around the world.

During the era of Digital Bangladesh the demands are very high for online newspaper rather than printed newspaper. On the other hand, printed newspaper comes into play in terms of giving the reader pleasure of waking up with a cup of tea. Along with that, printed newspaper always plays an important role to every type of people starting from the preventing citizens from electing an unworthy leader. “The present study of productivity in newspaper printing deals with composition, stereotyping and presswork, the three mechanical processes in modern newspaper printing” (Productivity, 958). Everyday social media newspaper provides us a large number of news. Still, many are not able to subscribe to online newspaper. In this way, we can see that the print media is still considered to be an important source for us to stay updated and well-informed. The fact that Media is a power is well accepted by all. Ignoring newspapers is like keeping one’s eyes shut. Newspaper is a credible source of providing information on not only what is happening but also tells us why it is happening. Along with that, newspaper organization works heart and soul in terms of digging the topic or subject as much deeper as it goes.

Chapter Three: Theories implied practically

In the field of journalism, a journalist or editor and people related to this area face various problems. To sort out these problems, academic knowledge comes into play because the knowledge acquires by one and implementing it in work place can become successful. In this part I will analyze theories that I have learned regarding my university life. While doing internship at *The Daily Observer*, the knowledge and practices I acquired from my academic courses helped me to sort out many obstacles. Along with that, working in the countryside desk gave me the opportunity to implement my academic learning practically.

Basic terminology of a newspaper:

There are some key terms that are related to newspapers. The terms that I have learnt through my academic courses were implied into my practical field. Those are:

Byline: Name of the journalist, appears at the beginning of a story.

Correspondent: The person who sends news from the outside of the workplace.

Cutline: Descriptive information under a picture.

Caption: Text printed below a picture used to describe it and who took it.

Dateline: The date and the location at the beginning of a story.

Editor: The person who prepares the news story for print.

Feature: Story about the human or entertaining aspects of a situation.

Follow-up: An update on a previous story.

Headline: The main title of the article

Hard news: Current news comparing to features.

Lead: First paragraph of a news story.

News room: The place, where reporters and editors do their work.

Masthead: Newspaper's name.

Plug Boxes: Small boxes that carry small news headline and page numbers that appears on the front page of the newspaper.

Press release: Publicity handout, or a story given to the news media for publication.

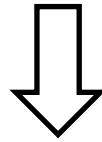
Subhead: A smaller one-line headline for a story.

Source: Person, record, document or event that provides their information for the story.



Fig. 6: Identification of terms of the newspaper

Soft News



Headline ← **50,000 hectares of crop land go under water as fishermen cut dam at Shahzadpur**

Dateline ← Published : Wednesday, 11 July, 2018 at 12:00 AM Count : 81

Byline ← Our Correspondent

Location ← SIRAJGANJ, July 10: Local fishermen and boatmen have allegedly cut a ring dam at two places of Rautara area in Shahzadpur Upazila.

Lead → 

As a result, three unions of Shahzadpur Upazila and nine upazilas of different districts, touching the great Chalan Beel (water body), have been flooded and crops on about 50,000 hectares of land and many earthen roads have gone under water. As huge grazing lands have been flooded, the farmers have brought their cattle to their respective houses from the lands. Besides, about two lakh people of the flood-hit areas have been suffering much.

Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB), district office, said they have incurred loss worth about Tk 1.50 lakh as the dyke was cut in the two places. The affected areas are: Shahzadpur, Ullahpara and Tarash upazilas of Sirajganj, Bhangura, Chatmohar and Faridpur upazilas of Pabna, and Gurudasapur, Singra and Baraigram upazilas of Natore. Sirajganj BWDB sources said the 1,200-metre long ring dam was built near Rautara sluice gate under Potazia Union of Shahzadpur Upazila about one month back at the cost of Tk 1,51,15,000. The BWDB builds the dyke to protect crops from flooding every year. As the flood started late this year, so the farmers managed to harvest their paddy earlier.

During rainy season, local fishermen and boatmen become busier, and to ensure their unhindered movement, they cut the dyke every year, while the BWDB builds the damaged embankment each year. Seeking anonymity, some local people said the area gets flooded after harvesting paddy since 1994, but it does not damage the paddy. Meanwhile, the local BWDB builds the dyke every year in the name of protecting croplands.

They said that the BWDB has wasted about Tk 50 crore in the name flood protection during the last 37 years.

In this connection, Potazia Union Parishad (UP) Chairman Mohammad Ali Bepary said this area gets flooded late because of the dyke's construction. To ensure unhampered movement of their vessels and to net fishes easily, the local boatmen and fishermen cut the dyke after the end of the paddy harvesting season. Kayempur UP Chairman Hasibul Haque Hasan said the local farmers are frustrated as the BWDB has built a dyke with low quality sand. Panic grips people when the flow of water in the river increases. The local people want permanent dyke here.

In this connection, Executive Engineer of Sirajganj BWDB Md Ariful Islam said to protect croplands from being submerged during the rest of the season, the BWDB has built a temporary dyke at the spot where the dam was cut.

Fig. 7: Identification of terms of the countryside news

Characteristics of news:

Not everything around us can be considered as news for publishing because there are five characteristics that need to be fulfilled before considered as news. Countryside desk focuses on the rural area and strive to portray in front of city people. In the course, ENG440: English for the Print Media, five characteristics have been mentioned. Those are, Prominence, Proximity, Consequence, Audity, Timeliness. Among the five characteristics there is news which met one or more characteristics. Such as:

- i. **Prominence:** The term prominence refers to the importance of news to the reader because all news might not catch the reader's eye. For instance: the news that given below: **“Three found dead in three districts”** will catch the reader's eye faster

than “**Electrification boosts rural economy in Rangpur**”. Here, we the countryside team, took the death news as important rather than the soft news of electrification because we believe, readers will have their glance first at the death news. Hence, we kept the death news on the front page of the countryside section.

Three found dead in three districts

Published : Wednesday, 11 July, 2018 at 12:00 AM Count : 152

Our Correspondent



Print A+ A- A

At least three persons were found dead in three districts- Dinajpur, Joypurhat and Jamalpur, in two days.

DINAJPUR: Police recovered a minor's body from a pond near their house at Paschim Khazapur Village under Ehsary Union in Fulbari Upazila on Monday morning, one day after his missing.

The deceased was identified as Miraz Kazim, 5, son of Mahub Kazi of the village.

In this connection, police arrested Momtaz Uddin, 50, son of Mir Uddin of the village.

The deceased's mother Umme Kulsum said after feeding his son at noon, she took her to Momtaz's house and since then her son went missing.

On Monday morning, his floating body was found in the pond.

Umme Kulsum said her son was killed over land dispute.

Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Fulbari Police Station (PS) Sheikh Nasim Habib said evidence of murder was found in primary investigation.

The body was sent to Dinajpur M Abdur Rahim Medical College Hospital for an autopsy, the OC said.

JOYPURHAT: Railway police recovered an unknown man's severed body from the rail line near Bagjana rail station in Panchbibi Upazila on Monday morning.

Railway police sources said local people saw the body aged about 30 and wearing lungi and T-shirt at the area in the morning and informed Santahar railway police.

Police recovered and sent the body to morgue for an autopsy. Sub-Inspector of Santahar railway police Sukumar Chandra Roy said an unnatural death case was filed with Santahar Railway PS in this connection.

JAMALPUR: Body of an unidentified youth was recovered from a pond at Beltoi Khayerpara Village in Melanandah Upazila of the district on Sunday.

The youth, aged 18 to 19, was seen roaming aimlessly around the village on Saturday, said police quoting the villagers.

On Sunday morning, locals saw the floating body of the youth in the pond and informed police.

Police recovered the body and sent it to Jamalpur General Hospital morgue for an autopsy.

No injury marks were found on the body.

Electrification boosts rural economy in Rangpur

Published : Wednesday, 11 July, 2018 at 12:00 AM Count : 216



Print A+ A- A

RANGPUR, July 10: Rural economy in the district strengthens as the small and medium scale entrepreneurs have set up 5,360 power-run cottage and small-scale industries and enterprises taking the advantage of rural electrification.

The power-run enterprises are thriving fast creating jobs to cut poverty and improve life standard of the rural people, said Superintending Engineer (In-Charge) at Rangpur Zonal Office of Rural Electrification Board (REB) Md Ranjan Ali.

Two Pelli Bidyut Samity (PBS) authorities have so far given around 5.80 lakh residential, industrial and other connections, including 2,160 connections to cottage and small and medium scale industries and enterprises here.

The PBS-1 and PBS-2 have brought three upazilas under total electricity coverage and are working to bring other five upazilas under full electricity coverage here by September next, Ali added.

Talking to BSS, Anwarul Islam, 55, of Chandanpat Matiyapara Village in Sadar Upazila said, "I led poor life with my wife Sheikh Begum, 43, and son Shishir, 5, for years together. But, my life started changing since I set up a welding workshop 'Shishir Traders' at nearby Chandanpat Bazaar and started welding works using electricity two years ago.

Anwarul now earns Tk 20,000 to 25,000 a month after paying monthly electricity bills ranging between Tk 1,500 and 2,000.

Youth Shudha Ranjan, 30, of Matiyapara Village said he started running a small welding workshop at Chandanpat Bazaar five years back using electricity there.

"Now, I earn over Tk 20,000 a month to meet all demands of my family comprising of my mother Bano Bala and elder brother Nirmal Chandra," said a solvent Ranjan adding that he would marry soon.

Motiar Rahman of Sreerampur Village said he runs a husking mill using electricity and crushes paddy at Chandanpat Bazaar earning Tk 25,000 monthly after meeting all expenses. -BSS

Fig. 8: Two news stories related to the prominence characteristics.

- ii. **Consequences:** Before or aftermath of an incident, event or activity are considered as consequence characteristic of news. An example can be given, “**Hailstorm damages 24 thousand houses in Dinajpur**” (See appendix-5), and this news covered the impact of the helpless people’s lives as they lost their houses. Moreover, readers can be worried about this issue.
- iii. **Timeliness:** This characteristic signifies the idea that when something happens around us needs to be covered timely which means an incident took place yesterday, cannot be covered after a month because it will lose its value to the reader. Such as,

news “Cold-hit people get blankets in Feni” took place during winter and also published by that time (See appendix-6).

Among others, while working in the countryside desk I noticed that field reporter used to send report on various matters and among those if any incident or activity met any one or more characteristics of news then it would get published.

Translating Press Release:

The Daily Observer known to be as one of the leading English newspaper in Bangladesh. Here the working process is that the field reporters ought to send the raw press releases which are written in Bangla without any proof reading. After joining, my supervisor gave me news which were written in Bangla and told me to translate those in English. Basically, a translator has to wear many hats during translation because translation technique varies from news to news. However, in the article, “TRANSLATION IN JOURNALISM: THE PRACTICES OF MULTILINGUAL FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS” it is mentioned that, Translators then are not simply traitors. They are more complex than that — they are jugglers, conjurers, mind readers, psychologists, games players, poets, and social scientists. At the end they are cultural porters, offering the use of one language an imaginative equivalence of the meaning expressed in another. The question is not whether they get it wrong. The wonder is that so much of it is right. (Qtd. in Ahern & Jeanne, n.p.)

While translating, the knowledge I gained from the course ENG465: Translation Studies assisted me to bring out the proper word or sentences which will hold the same meaning and aura similar to the Bengali press release. There are certain techniques of translation I used while translating which are described below:

Word for Word: This technique refers to the process of choosing exact word from target language contains the same meaning as the source text. Along with that, Jerome’s interpretation about word for word technique is that, “[...] it refers to what came to be known as ‘literal’. [...] (Qtd. in Munday, 20). As *The Daily Observer* is very reader oriented so the choice of word and sentences are simple. The technique word for word brings out the news perfectly in front of the reader in simple manner.

For example: In the ST it was written in Bangla as “জানা গেছে, প্রায় ২ হাজার ৭শ একর বনভূমি নিয়ে দিনাজপুর জেলার বিরল উপজেলার ধর্মপুর সামাজিক বন বিভাগ এর আওতায় ধর্মপুর বনবীট অবস্থিত। ধর্মপুর ও রাণীপুকুর ইউপি’র ধর্মপুর, নলপুর, এনায়েতপুর, মহেশপুর, শীবপুর, ছোট চৌপুকুরিয়া, বাঁমনগাঁও, বিশ্বনাথপুর, রাণীপুর, কামদেবপুর, ধর্মজইনসহ আশপাশের গ্রামগুলোয় বিশাল এই শাল বনের বিস্তৃতি” (See appendix-7). While translating this press release I translated as “Sources said, the Dharmapur forest is on at least 2,700 acre land. The forestland is surrounded with several villages like Dharmapur, Nalpur, Enayetpur, Maheshpur, Shibpur, Choto Chowpukuria, Bamongaon, Bisshawnathpur, Ranipur, Kamdebpur, Dharmajain and others.” Here it is clear that, I followed the ‘Word for word’ technique keeping the meaning same as well as in simple way for the reader.

Sense for Sense: In the field of translation sense for sense, it is one of the excellent techniques and the opposite of word for word where the same meaning of source is conveyed in indirect manner in the target language. According to Jerome, “[...] free (sense for sense) translation. [...] The sense for sense approach, on the other hand, allowed the sense or content of

the ST to be translated” (Qtd. in Munday, 20). While translating the raw press release I also noticed that there are news which will not make any sense if I use the word for word technique, on the other hand, by using sense for sense, the news becomes for effective in front of the reader. Usually, while translating the headline I ought to use the sense for sense technique.

For instance: In the source text, it was written as “চাঁপাইনবাবগঞ্জের আমগাছগুলোতে মুকুল আসতে শুরু করেছে। নানা ফুলের সঙ্গে সৌরভ ছড়াচ্ছে আমের মুকুলও। আমের মুকুলের মিষ্টি ঘ্রাণে মৌ মৌ করছে প্রকৃতি। মুকুলের সেই সুমিষ্ট সুবাস আন্দোলিত করে তুলছে মানুষের মনা।” (See appendix-8). I translated this as “Mango buds have bloomed on mango trees at C’nawabganj with the arrival of the spring.” Here, we can see that the source texts were lengthy and used many words to explain about mango buds. Such as, আম গাছগুলোতে মুকুল, সৌরভ ছড়াচ্ছে আমের মুকুলও, ঘ্রাণে মৌ মৌ করছে, সুমিষ্ট সুবাস। while translating I used only “mango bud blooms” (See appendix-9) that explains overall meaning. Therefore, the line comes with a short and meaningful sentence. If I used word-for-word technique the sentence and meaning can loss its track. So, I followed Sense for Sense technique here.

The society we are living in is a multilingual society where English always considered as the professional and second language. As a journalist of multilingual society it is important to emphasis on the meaning rather than the language. Nevertheless, translating the Bangla press release to standard and simple English for the reader the mentioned techniques associated me to do my task properly.

Besides these techniques that I learnt from ENG 465: Translation Studies course, there are few other approaches helped me to acquire the skill of translating the news quickly. Among those, Forms of Text Type one of the dimension of understanding various types of text and its relativity with the translation. Such as, **Plain communication of facts** focuses on the text full of information, knowledge, opinions and needed to be operated according to the rules. For an example: during my internship, I got a news report that consists with full of information, statistics, opinions. The news is about around 750 of 855 educational institutions in six upazilas of the district have no Shaheed Minar, monuments for the martyrs of the Language Movement (See appendix-10). There are 60 colleges, 300 high schools, 430 primary schools, and 65 madrasas in six upazilas of the district, but among these only 10 colleges, 50 high schools and 45 primary schools have Shaheed Minar. And about these, number of teachers, students, parents shared their opinion. As the news fulfilled with statistics, information, so it can go with the form of Plain Communication of Facts.

Editing and Shaping the News:

Editing the news before printing is the most crucial component of journalism. News which is not edited properly loses reader attraction toward, which led the newspaper organization to focus on the editing before printing. Besides, there are several editors employed in the organization to make the newspaper perfect. In *The Daily Observer* I worked as sub-editor and being in this position me not translated news but also edited the news. Editing news refers to the checking spelling, grammar, writing headlines, page design etc. In other words, it is considered as the process of making news flawless, accurate and precise for the reader. Among all the courses, ENG 401: Editing associated me to master the editing process of news, where I learnt all about news editing and in my internship I utilized my knowledge practically.

Checking Spelling:

In terms of editing the news, check spelling is the most important among all. Misspelling can make the news other way around. However, by spelling check it also means that there are words which pronounced same but spelling and meaning different. For instance:

Principal: Headmaster	Choose: Select something
Principle: Origin or cause of something	Chose: Past form of choose
Fair: Beautiful	Affect: Influence
Fare: Hire cost	Effect: Cause to happen

Grammar:

Checking grammar of news is the most significant step in the process of editing. While translating the source text to target text it is important to keep the meaning same as well as maintain grammar properly. In an article mentioned that, “In the world of journalism and reporting, it is important to have correct grammar in order for your audience to receive clear and flawless facts. An ample mistake can cause misinterpretation of what you are trying to relay to your readers and this can cost you your reputation” (Grammar, n.p n.d).

Punctuation:

To produce perfect news it is prominent to maintain the use of punctuation properly because even a misuse of comma makes huge difference. As the organization is reader oriented publishes reader oriented news, an editor needs to be conscious using punctuation. Punctuation such as comma plays an important role because it separates elements in series, determines

meaning, and draws a thin line between appositives. Along with that, commas also used to separate ages, birth dates, cites or state names, quotes of different person etc. Nevertheless, not only comma but also symbol such as Hyphen, Colons, Semi-colons, and Quotation marks also come into play in writing. For an example: From one of my writing, the sentence, "The accused is Kamrul Islam, 35, son of Shomej Uddin, of Rohitpur Village." should be written like this. If I missed any punctuation mark, the information may not provide the correct meaning what it should be.

Editing the Anecdotal Lead:

Grabbing reader attention is one of the significant points of editing. In the chapter “Other ways to tell the news” it is mentioned that, “In some ways, anecdotal leads place more demand on copy of editors. The editor has to make sure that the anecdotal lead illustrates the story fairly” (Others, 107). However, as a sub-editor while editing news I also learnt to present the news properly in the anecdotal lead. An example is given below:

Pigeon farming popular among Faridpur students

Published : Tuesday, 27 March, 2018 at 12:00 AM Count : 138

Aminul Islam

Print A+ A- A

FARIDPUR, Mar 26: The local students of different educational institutions are becoming interested in pigeon farming nowadays. But they are a little bit frustrated as the price of pigeon's feed is increasing day by day.

The pigeon farmers said, there are about 20 species of pigeon in the country; the pigeon farming is not difficult, but it gives maximum profit if precaution is taken to avoid its diseases.

However, pigeon farming has become a profitable business with a short investment. Students have been found to farm pigeon besides continuing their studies as they are gaining financially. A pigeon haat sits every Thursday near Laxmipur railway station in the town. Businessmen from various parts of the district come to the haat for selling pigeon. Mostly students gather at the haat who sell pigeon. Some of them have been farming pigeon for the last five to ten years.



A student Rakibul Islam of Tepakhola said, "I have bought five pairs of pigeon at the haat. I asked Tk 1,000 for selling one pair of pigeon, but customers are asking Tk 800. I have been farming pigeon for the last three years. I earn Tk 3,000 in a month. But, now I'm getting less profit than before as the feeds' prices are increasing. Besides, the pigeon's diseases are increasing day by day." Businessman Ananda Malo said, "I have at least 40 pairs of pigeons. I have been farming pigeon for the last six years." A student Morin Ferdous of Alipur said, "I bought three-pair pigeons at Tk 6,000. I have ten pairs of pigeon at my home." The pigeon farmers, however, demanded two days in a week for the pigeon haat and also reduction in the feed prices.

Fig. 9: Story matches with Anecdotal Lead.

Choosing of Headlines:

Making headlines was the most fun and difficult part of editing. There are several rules that need to be followed for selecting a proper headline for the news. Only a proper and interesting headline will be able to catch the reader's eye and well as read the news further, otherwise it will be ignored. However, my course teacher also mentioned in the class that, "headlines tells the reader shortly". In the booklet, there are six steps that can be followed mentioned which are:

- i. Read and understand the story before you start to write the headline
- ii. Write a rough headline, experimenting with word combinations that will form one or more lines of the headline.
- iii. Choose specific, precise words
- iv. Make word count
- v. Use action verbs-and some creativity
- vi. Start over if you are stuck (Writing,139)

Above mentioned steps aided me to bring out the perfect headline for the news. There are several headlines I have written which got published, for instance: In the press release, the title was given as "হবিগঞ্জ বিএনপি-পুলিশ সংঘর্ষ, গুলিবিদ্ধ ৩০, পৌরমেয়র সহ আহত অর্ধশত হবিগঞ্জ, ২০ফেব্রুয়ারি", I translated this as "Habiganj BNP-cop scuffle hurts 30 by bullets". However, I also got some press release there the title was missing, the news was on "চাঁপাইনবাবগঞ্জের আম গাছ গুলোতে মুকুল আসতে শুরু করেছে। [...] বিশেষ করে নিয়মিত জাতল্যাংড়া, গোপালভোগ, ক্ষিরসাপাত ও আশ্বিনা, আমরোপালি জাতেরই গাছ বেশি হচ্ছে।"(See appendix-8). For this news, the headline I created was 'Mango buds sprout in C'nawabganj' (See

appendix-9). Basically, to create an eye-catching headline, understanding the whole story is important because reporters always do not send the story with headlines and sometimes if they send stories with headlines, do not match with the story.

Maintaining Ethics and Law as an Editor:

Editor has to be always careful while editing the news because editing involves the process of making necessary changes accordingly. When I edited I always followed the ethics and laws which I learnt from ENG401: Editing. There are several rules which need to be followed such as keep the story or news intact, portray what is fact or written, omit ridicule information and many more. However, I also learnt that an editor cannot put his or her voice in the news or story because that will not only change the news but also it will be formed as stereotyped news. However, in the field of journalism, ethics plays the most significant role where the 'Liberal Theory' comes into play. In the article, "Journalism Ethics" Ethics in the journalism defined from liberal theory as "For liberal theory, journalists should constitute an independent press that informs citizens and acts as a watchdog on government and abuses of power" (Ward, 298). During my internship, I have edited several news stories. Among them some were on political issues when Khaleda Zia, BNP leader was arrested. While editing news, I had to be careful as well as to be neutral because it was political issue and slight wrong information will change the reader perspective and might bring legal charge against the organization.

Telling the News with Pictures:

Pictorial journalism plays the most significant role in the field of print media. Horn in the article “Pictorial Journalism” mentioned that, “One picture tells as much as ten thousand words, says the Chinese proverb, exaggerating the situation considerably. One good picture can tell more than a thousand ill-chosen words, but a very few well- selected words can say more [...]” (Horn, 726). Thus, sometimes pictures can also talk. Pictures can tell its story. Besides, one picture speaks two stories as well. “Much as a copy editor working with a story removes words that are not needed, editors working with pictures remove the sections of the image that do not help tell the story (Editing, 194). We also use valuable and effective picture in which we can share stories through picture because a picture can also grab a readers’ attention. A picture is given below which I used during writing a news story:

Overloaded vehicles damage approach road to Second Teesta Bridge

Mahfuz Sazul

LALMONIRHAT, July 10: Random movement of overloaded vehicles is damaging the approach road to the newly constructed Second Teesta Bridge over the Teesta River at Kakina area in Kaliganj Upazila of the district.

Overloaded vehicles are crossing the approach road and the bridge round the clock, but no step has been taken yet to stop it.

Local people use the new Kakina-Mahipur route to go to the divisional city Rangpur for various purposes. Besides, different transports from different parts of the country use the new route as it saves 50-km additional journey and bridge toll.

But the facilities of the newly constructed bridge are becoming useless in fear of damage of the approach road and there are no activities against the random movement of the overloaded heavy vehicles by the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), police or administration due to unknown reasons.

Local people said about 300 overloaded vehicles especially stone-laden ones from Barisal land port move on the bridge and its approach road round the clock especially

during the night. Many potholes have already been created at many areas on the four-km length of the approach road in the last one month.

Rubel Hossain, Pavel Miab and many others of Kakina Village in Kaliganj Upazila said, “Finally our dreams were fulfilled as construction of the bridge

in Lalmonirhat Sadar Upazila, said they use the new Kakina-Mahipur route to transport stones to different parts of the country from Barisal land port and to save about 40-km additional journey.”

Officer-in-Charge of Kaliganj Police Station Maqbul Hossain said LGED is the authority to

Parvez Newaz Khan said, “We hung cautionary signboards forbidding movement of overloaded vehicles on the approach road and the bridge. Police should take stern action against the truck drivers for moving their loaded vehicles on the road violating the caution. Some three barriers would be

movement of overloaded vehicles during the night. At least 10 cases were lodged per day in the last one month, he also said.

Kaliganj Upazila Nirbahi Officer Rubul Hossain said, necessary steps must be taken to stop the movement of overloaded vehicles. LGED sources said



on Mahipur-Gangachhara route over the Teesta River was completed. But now the approach road of the bridge is under threat due to random movement of heavy vehicles.”

Misaur Mia, 36, a truck driver of Khochabari area

check or stop the overloaded vehicles on the bridge and the bridge’s approach road. If LGED authority seeks help of police, they will get help, he also said.

However, LGED’s Kaliganj Upazila Engineer

constructed on the road for stopping movement of loaded vehicles within a week.”

Traffic Inspector in Kaliganj Upazila Md Moniruzzaman said they don’t set up check post on the road to prevent the

Navana Group-WMCC jointly constructed the 850-metre-long bridge and the cost for the construction of the bridge was estimated at Tk 121.65 crore. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina laid the foundation stone on October 19, 2011.

Fig. 10: A picture telling its news

Through this picture, easily a reader can get the idea of a story. The picture shows an overloaded truck is using a road that causes the road to damage. Therefore, the headline was given as “Overloaded vehicles damage approach road to Second Teesta Bridge”. The news is about

Random movement of overloaded heavy vehicles is damaging the approach road to the newly constructed Second Teesta Bridge over the Teesta River at Kakina area in Kaliganj Upazila. Overloaded vehicles are crossing the approach road and the bridge round the clock, but no step has been taken yet to stop it (Sazu, n.p).

Concept of Panopticon:

Think about a day or week without media, no one will have no idea what is happening in the other side of the world. Your curious mind will hunt you like nightmare. Media is the eye that sees through everything and brings out the world beside your cup of coffee. Here the concept of Panopticon and Gaze comes into play. From my academic course, ENG331: Media and Cultural Studies, I got to know that media whether it is online or printed wrapped around the whole world. In the article “The Panopticon's Changing Geography” the authors described how the Panopticon was formed from the concept of building by saying that, “More than two centuries ago the architect Samuel Bentham designed a building that was actually a surveillance machine. Its optics was such that a single "inspector" could observe every occupant simultaneously in a prison. [...] He called it the "Inspection House," or sometimes the "Elaboratory.”(Dobson & Peter, 308). His brother Jerermy Bentham a well-known philosopher coined the concept of panopticon which refer to the keeping an eye on every individuals. However, in terms of describe the idea more further, “It was, he said, "A new mode of obtaining power of mind over mind, in a quantity hitherto without example Such is the engine: such the work that may be done with it” (Qtd. in 308). Moreover, the principle of Panopticon or the eye of power can be illustrated through Foucault’s conversation with Jean-Pierre and Michelle Perrot. There, Foucault described, “A perimeter building in the form of a ring. At the center of this, a tower, pierced by large windows opening on to the inner face of the ring. The outer building is divided in cells each of which traverses the whole thickness of the

building. These cells have two windows, one opening on to the inside, facing the windows of the central tower, the other, outer one allowing daylight to pass through the whole cell. All that is then needed is to put an overseer in the tower and place in each of the cells a lunatic, a patient, a convict, a worker or a schoolboy. The back lighting enables one to pick out from the central tower the little captive silhouettes in the ring of cells. In short, the principle of the dungeon is reversed; daylight and the overseer's gaze capture the inmate more effectively than darkness, which afforded after all a sort of protection" (147).

Since the invention of technology, the concept of Panopticon has been playing significant role in terms of seeing or keeping everyone under surveillance. As it is mentioned earlier, Panopticon was developed to keep the prisoners under supervision, where media is doing the same job. Foucault also mentions it as "the technique of power used within the Panopticon" (154). Media is like standing in the middle of the world and trying to snipe every incident or details and bring it under light in front of the reader. In the same way, media can be looked at through the concept of Panopticon. In today's world, media also can be considered as a tool of Panopticon because we are being observed by the state, just how the inmates know that they are under supervision of a watchman, and are always very cautious about their move. It is considered as a process which every citizen in the society is fully under control of the dominating powerful group. While doing internship at *The Daily Observer* I saw how the media keeping their eyes on surrounding. For instance, I worked in the countryside desk where the focus is on the portrayal of the information, incident, and condition of the rural area people in front of the city people. While editing or translating news I noticed there are news from different side of Bangladesh conveying condition, activity or events taking place in the rural area. Such as, in a day I edited and translated news from

Comilla, Rajshahi, Cox's Bazar, Tangail and many others. Moreover, all the news from those areas published in the next day though the online portal published those that very day.

Skeleton stolen from grave in Rajshahi

Published : Saturday, 24 February, 2018 at 12:00 AM Count : 109

Our Correspondent

Print A+ A- A



RAJSHAHI, Feb 23: Burglars stole a skeleton from a grave at Khairhat Village under Gargari Union in Bagha Upazila here on Tuesday night.

Meanwhile, panic has gripped the villagers in this connection.

Locals said a villager Pakhi Begum saw thieves digging the grave on Wednesday.

Sources said Milon Hossain, son of Aftab Ali, of the village, was killed on May 13 last year. The thieves removed the soil from the bottom of his grave and stole the skeleton.

Officer-in-Charge of Bagha Police Station Rezaul Hasan Reza confirmed the incident.

Two arrested with revolver in Comilla

Published : Saturday, 24 February, 2018 at 12:00 AM Count : 108

Our Correspondent

Print A+ A- A



COMILLA, Feb 23: Police arrested two persons with a revolver and 10 rounds of ammunition from Raipur Village under Daudkandi Upazila here on Thursday night.

The arrested are Gias Uddin, 31, son of Moizuddin, of Raipur Village and Billal Hossen, 32, son of Gafur Mia, of Jinglatali Village under Daudkandi Upazila of the district.

Inspector of Daudkandi Police Station Md. Nurul Islam said being informed by local people, they raided a fisheries project in Jinglatali Village and arrested the two with the arms and ammunition.

A case was filed with Daudkandi Police Station in this connection.

Two killed in elephant attack in C'Bazar

Published : Saturday, 24 February, 2018 at 12:00 AM Count : 112

Our Correspondent

Print A+ A- A



COX'S BAZAR, Feb 23: Two persons were killed in an elephant attack at Kutupalang Rohingya camp in Ukhia Upazila here early Thursday.

The deceased were identified as Md Alam alias Chikon Ali, 28, son of Md Fazal, of Dakkhin Foliapara Nursery Village under Rajapalang Union and Foyez, 30, son of Nur Mohammad, of Block D-4 under Kutupalang camp in the upazila.

Officer-in-Charge of Ukhia Police Station Md Abul Khayer confirmed the incident.

Fig. 11: Media as Panopticon watching everything

In the pictures above, all these news published in the same day but the incidents took place scatter manner. However, Panopticon was described as the imperial power holder by this means God holds the ultimate power along with that, the concept also described as 'God's Gaze' because God has eye over all of us and if one commits any crime God is there to punish. On the other hand, Media is nowadays considered as the 'Eye of Power' which means media holds the maximum

power in terms of surveillance. Everything happening the rural area of Bangladesh are depict able in front of city people because of this media. Therefore, Media can be a sort of power.

Feature writing in Countryside:

During my internship I wrote several features which highlighted the success of people, also about places as well as some events. Feature writing is very much exceptional than the news or story writing. While writing feature, academic knowledge I gained from ENG 440: English for Print Media, aided me a lot. Feature writing refers to the human interest article that focuses on particular people, places and events. Feature stories cover topics in depth, going further than mere hard news coverage by amplifying and explaining the most interesting and important elements of situation or success. Furthermore, as it is stated earlier, feature story writing is different from news writing, so there are certain rules I had to follow. It is not like reporting something latest rather it is the reflection of in-depth gaze upon a subject. Along with that, features are longer in size than the news because it covers more information and well described. Although there is an estimated length of feature story such as newspaper features are 500-2500 words, on the other hand, magazine features are usually 500-5000 words. In terms of writing feature story in the countryside sector, I had to follow that I cannot put own opinion or attitude in the writing which means I will have to myself out of the story. Besides, there are variations in feature story writing such as:

- ✓ Human Interest: Highlights any issue through experiences or success of others.
- ✓ Profiles: Reveals individual Lifestyle.
- ✓ Product Feature: Tells about a product.
- ✓ Historical Feature: Commemorate important dates from history.

- ✓ Seasonal Themes: Stories about holiday or any seasonal changes.
- ✓ Behind the scenes: Inside views of unusual occupations, issue and events.

In the print media, feature writing is one of the most popular write up because everybody always feels curious about how others are leading their life, gaining success as well as it gives reader a journey of feel the thrill or momentum of someone's life events. However, writing feature from countryside desk mostly was based on Human Interest, Seasonal themes. The format of writing feature in Countryside sector of *The Daily Observer* is different from the lifestyle feature (See appendix-1 & fig.3).

Obituary:

Obituary is one of the writing which refers to the paragraph describes and charts the life of the deceased in chronological order. In other words, an Obituary is usually written in paragraph form and charts the life of the deceased in chronological order. It should focus on accomplishments of the deceased person and the impact that person had on his or her family, friends and community (How, n.p. n.d). Mainly, in Bangladesh obituary focuses on the news descendent of famous person. In this writing, it is all about that person's accomplishment of life as well as describes the impact on the departed soul's family, friends and community. In the course ENG440: English for Print media, I learnt how to write an obituary. There are certain steps need to be followed, those are:

- Keep an eye on the length restriction
- Mention deceased's full name and place of death
- Recall sweet memories of that person
- Provide a list of achievements
- Acknowledge any survivors
- Mention date, time and process of the funeral

- Conclude with a condolence message toward the survivors

During the internship I wrote several obituaries where I followed these steps accordingly. Moreover, as the writing style varies from organization to organization, the obituary write up remains the same in every publishing organization because it is the standard way to write an obituary. Here some obituaries from our countryside team are given bellow following the mentioned steps:

Obituary

Published : Friday, 2 March, 2018 at 12:00 AM Count : 76

Our Correspondent

Print A+ A- A



KISHOREGANJ, Mar 1: Advocate Musleh Uddin, renowned lawyer of Kishoreganj town, died of heart attack at 6:30am on Wednesday.

His body was taken to District Judge's Court, and later his namaj-e-janaza was held at Shahidi Mosque. He left behind his wife, three daughters and many relatives and friends to mourn his death.

Chakma Raj family's eldest member Nandit Roy dies

Published : Sunday, 25 March, 2018 at 12:01 PM Count : 2553

By Md Mostafa Kamal

Print A+ A- A



Kumar Nandit Roy, the eldest member of Chakma Raj family and a renowned tribal personality of Chittagong Hill Tracts, died at a hospital in Thailand's capital Bangkok on Saturday evening. He was 67.

Family sources said Nandit Roy, also the younger brother of late Circle Chief Tridiv Roy, had been undergoing treatment at the Square Hospitals in Dhaka for last few days with various complications.

Roy was flown to the Bangkok hospital on Saturday morning following deterioration of his condition where he died in the evening.

His body will be brought back home on Monday.

TF/LY



Fig. 12: Obituaries

Chapter Four: Conclusion

To conclude all, working with a countryside team was really rewarding for me. To me, it was a great opportunity that BRAC University gave me. Besides, working in a newspaper organization actually an amusing job because here I get the chance to relate and implement my knowledge which I had learnt from my media major courses. To make news more audience oriented I always followed the techniques that I had learnt and thus most of my writings got published without further editing by chief editor which made me honored. Along with that, it was a great medium and platform to imply what I have learnt in my academic courses as well. To me, journalism is an interesting sector that always grabs me to know more. However, in the field of newspaper various types of news appears and the format of the all-news were not the same. Each news-story is categorized accordingly and each category has its own unique characteristics. Apart from these, I also gained much corporate etiquette while working in this organization. Though I had no experience on writing or working in a newspaper organization but my academic knowledge assisted me to get into this time to time. *The Daily Observer* helped me to meet new people, place and to gather more experience about reality. Additionally, I have learned about being punctuality and adjusting the environment of the workplace and also maintaining the work with ethics. In a nutshell, working in a newspaper organization was an enormous experience in my whole lifetime and I am pretty sure that the skill and knowledge I had gained here, will serve me further in the future. Because doing an internship at *The Daily Observer* enabled me a chance to put myself in such an unknown environment as well as enabled me to adjust in a new and inconvenient situation. Their writing techniques have boosted up my confidence level to face my upcoming professional life.

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APPENDIX

Appendix-1

NATURAL BEAUTY

Published : Sunday, 11 February, 2018 at 12:00 AM Count : 155

Print A+ A- A



NATURAL BEAUTY: As spring is knocking at the door, changes become evident in nature. Trees that lost their leaves over the winter begin to grow new leaves and flowers. Different flowers appear with attractive colour making the nature vibrant. The photo shows Krishnachura and Radhachura flowers turning the environment more jubilant at Gopalganj Sadar Upazila. Photo: Mozammel Hossain Munna



Appendix-2

Wheat farmers happy over bumper yield, fair price in Kushtia

Published : Thursday, 29 March, 2018 at 12:00 AM Count : 140

Our Correspondent

Print A+ A- A



KUSHTIA, Mar 28: The local farmers are happy over bumper wheat production this season because of favourable weather and timely supply of necessary agro-input. A good number of farmers in six upazilas of the district have become self-reliant and changed their lot through cultivating wheat. They are also getting fair price of their produce. Now, they are passing busy time in harvesting the crop.

The Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) here had set a target to bring 4,602 hectares of land under wheat cultivation with a production target of 11,470 tonnes in the district, but 4,450 ha of land were brought under the cultivation and 10,950 tonnes of wheat were produced.

Farmer Akram Hossen of Pateldangi Village in Khoksa Upazila said, "I cultivated wheat on 50 ha of land and got 30 maunds of the crop from the land."

Less production cost compared to the other crops is one of the main reasons behind the popularity in wheat cultivation here, sources said.

In a recent visit to different local markets, this correspondent found that per maund of wheat was selling at Tk 950 to Tk 1,050.

Kushtia DAE Agriculturist Shamsuddin Mia said the farmers here are showing interest in cultivating wheat on more lands as it has proved profitable.

Appendix-3

Rajshahi growers frustrated over low price of potato

Published : Monday, 5 March, 2018 at 12:00 AM Count : 205

Our Correspondent

Print A+ A- A

RAJSHAHI, Mar 4: The local farmers are after all frustrated over the low price of potato during the start of the season. The farmers have already started to harvest potato across the district.

After harvesting potato, the farmers will cultivate brinjal, chilli, arum, maize and Boro paddy on the fields. Now, they are worried that they might not start the cultivation of other crops if potato is not harvested in time for its current low price in the market.

Meanwhile, the farmers said that it will take about a month to harvest the potato, which will be deposited in the cold stores. Last year, the potato farmers incurred huge loss, and to recoup that loss, they have cultivated potato this year again by loaning from different sources.

Sources at Rajshahi Agriculture Office said the potato cultivation target was 42,181 hectares of land this year but it was cultivated on 40,361 ha of land, while 43,481 ha of land were brought under the cultivation last year. The farmers suffered huge loss after depositing the potato at various cold stores last year. If the marginal farmers don't get the fair price of their produce this year, they will have to incur huge loss.

Potato is selling at Tk 300 to 350 per maund at local markets. With this price, the farmers will hardly be able to recoup their cultivation and production cost, the farmers said.

The farmers of Tanore, Paba, Mohanpur, Baghmara and Durgapur upazilas cultivated potato on huge lands, while three new cold stores have been opened in Tanore Upazila this year. Once in this vast Barind tract, the farmers used to cultivate Boro paddy, but now they are cultivating potato on more lands.

Farmer Ashraful Islam of Dhantoir Village in Tanore Upazila said, "I cultivated potato on 12-bigha land. As the weather is favourable, I expect to get bumper yield, but at the same time, I'm frustrated over the low price of potato in the market."

Farmer Jamilur Rahman of Kochua Village in the upazila said, "I cultivated potato on 45-bigha land this year. I hope to get bumper yield, but at the same time, I'm frustrated over the low price of potato."

In this connection, Deputy Director of the Department of Agriculture Extension in Rajshahi Deb Dulal Dhali said, "This year potato was cultivated on fewer lands than the last year. But as the weather is favourable, the farmers are likely to achieve bumper production. From our department, we advised farmers to cultivate potato following correct methods and use pesticides."



Appendix-4

Sudden arrival of summer in Barisal

Published : Friday, 2 March, 2018 at 12:00 AM Count : 152

Our Correspondent

Print A+ A- A



BARISAL, Mar 1: The summer season has suddenly arrived in the southern region.

Meanwhile, medium cold wave sweeps over early morning but later temperature increases especially at noon.

On 10 Falgun, the temperature crossed 33 degrees Celsius in Barisal.

The sudden arrival of the summer season may affect wheat production and other crops.

According to local meteorological department, the temperature will increase more within 48 hours that made wheat farmers worried because the less the temperature, the more wheat will produce.

Though winter season does not last long, farmers focus on this season importantly, expecting good production of crops.

The cold wave sweeps from the Bengali months of Agrahayan and Poush. Even, the lowest temperature was 6.7 degrees Celsius on January 8 last in Barisal. When the winter starts to go away, the temperature starts to rise up. From the beginning of spring, summer season takes its place.

On February 25, 33.4 degrees Celsius temperature was recorded, but according to the met office, the highest temperature at this time should be 28.2 degrees and lowest should be 14.3 degrees Celsius.

The met office sources said the temperature might increase more within 72 hours.

Besides, the sudden weather affected on winter seasonal vegetables and also the children and elderly people are suffering for the sudden rise in temperature.

Appendix-5

Hailstorm damages 24 thousand houses in Dinajpur

Published : Saturday, 7 April, 2018 at 12:00 AM Count : 81

Our Correspondent

Print A+ A- A



DINAJPUR, Apr 6: The recent hailstorm has caused huge damage at different areas of the district.

At least 23,855 houses of 14,355 families and 62 institutions under 26 unions in four upazilas were damaged at that time.

Deputy Commissioner Dr. Abu Noyeem Muhammad Abdus Sobur said, on March 30, the hailstorm occurred in two phases and caused huge damages; a list of the victims and their damaged houses was prepared and sent it to the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief on Tuesday; after getting the allocation, it will be distributed among the affected.

Sources said a total of 8,490 families and their houses and 62 educational institutions at 10 unions and one municipality under Parbotipur Upazila were damaged while one person was killed and nine were injured at those areas.

In five unions of Nababganj Upazila, about 5,500 families and 1,500 houses, and in two unions of Sadar Upazila, at least 225 families and 300 houses were damaged.

Meanwhile, at least 140 families and 200 houses were damaged under nine unions of Chiribandar Upazila. Besides, about 3,000 families and 4,000 houses in other upazilas were destroyed.

The hailstorm damaged about 5,000 hectares of Boro paddy lands.

To overcome the losses, agricultural department has taken to distribute pesticides in the affected areas.

Deputy Director of the Department of Agriculture Extension Md. Touhidur Rahman said, "The block supervisors in 102 unions of the affected upazilas are working to check pest attack in the affected lands. If the weather remains favourable, farmers will get bumper Boro yield."

Appendix-6

Cold-hit people get blankets in Feni

Published : Friday, 26 January, 2018 at 12:00 AM Count : 200

Our Correspondent

Print A+ A- A

FENI, Jan 25: At least 250 cold-hit and blind people got blankets from a local welfare organisation Unity Welfare Association at Dr Selim Al Deen auditorium of Zila Parishad here on Wednesday evening.

President of the organisation MKR Surjo presided over the function while Zila Parishad Chairman Aziz Ahmed Chowdhury was chief guest. Abdus Salam conducted the function.

General Secretary of the organisation Makki Rohan delivered the welcome address.

Among others, District Child Affairs

Officer Nurul Absar Bhuiyan, President of Feni Press Club Md. Abu Taher Bhuiyan, Editor of Daily Ajeyo Bangla Shawkat Mahmud, Director of Grand Haque Tower Emon-ul-Haque, and District Correspondent of Independent TV Nazmul Haque Shamim were present at the function as special guests. The chief guest said, "The blind people are not burden to the society. People should help them according to their ability."

It may be mentioned here that blankets were distributed among more than 500 cold-it people in different places of the town in the last seven days.



Appendix-7

তুকনো পাতার মড়মড়ে বাজে কত সুর বেদনায়
দিনাজপুরে শালবনের তুকনো পাতা কুড়িয়ে জীবিকা নির্বাহ করছে শতাধিক মানুষ

মোঃ দেলোয়ার হোসেন দিনাজপুর প্রতিনিধি | ০১-০০-২০১৮ | দিনাজপুর জেলার বিরল উপজেলার ধর্মপুর সামাজিক বন বিভাগের কালিয়াগঞ্জ শালবনে তুকনো পাতা কুড়িয়ে জীবিকা নির্বাহ করছে শতাধিক মানুষ। প্রতি বছর ফাল্গুন ও চৈত্র মাসে বিশাল এই বনের শাল গাছগুলো থেকে পাতা ঝড়ে পড়লে সেই পাতা কুড়িয়ে তা বাজারজাত করে শত শত মানুষ জীবিকা নির্বাহ করছে। তুকনো পাতা কুড়াতে দেখে একটি গানের কলি মনে করিয়ে দেয়, তুকনো পাতার মড়মড়ে বাজে কত সুর বেদনায়। অনেকের ভাণ্ডার চাকা ঘুরিয়ে দিয়েছে এই ঝড়ে পরা শালপাতা। যে যত বেশি সংগ্রহ করতে পারে তার আয় তত বেশি হয়। আবার অনেকে এই পাতা সংগ্রহ করে জমিয়ে রেখে তা বৈশাখ মাসের দিকে বাজারজাত করলে এখনকার বাজার মূল্যের চেয়ে দ্বিগুণ মূল্য বিক্রি হয়।

জানা গেছে, প্রায় ২ হাজার ৭শ একর বনভূমি নিয়ে দিনাজপুর জেলার বিরল উপজেলার ধর্মপুর সামাজিক বন বিভাগ এর আওতায় ধর্মপুর বনবাট অবস্থিত। ধর্মপুর ও রাণীপুকুর ইউপি'র ধর্মপুর, নলপুর, এনায়েতপুর, মহেশপুর, শীর্ষপুর, ছোট চৌপুকুরিয়া, বামনগাঁও, বিশ্বনাথপুর, রাণীপুর, কামদেবপুর, ধর্মজইনসহ আশপাশের গ্রামগুলোয় বিশাল এই শাল বনের বিস্তৃতি। ঋতুরাজ বসন্তের আগমনের শুরু থেকেই এ বনের শাল, সেগুন, আকাশমনি গাছসহ অন্যান্য গাছের তুকনো পাতা ঝড়ে পড়তে শুরু করে। শাল ও সেগুন পাতার মর মর শব্দ বনের গহীনে বেঁটে চলতেই কানে আসে অহরহ। আর এই তুকনো পাতাগুলো সংগ্রহ করে বসন্ত ঝরে নিজেদের দৈনন্দিন রান্নার কাজসহ আশপাশে এমনকি দিনাজপুর জেলা শহরে বাজারজাত করে জীবিকা নির্বাহ করে ওই এলাকার হেমলিখ, জীবীত, অরমন, রাজেন, জাকারিয়া, এনামুল, মজেন, শালিম্বালা, রূপবানীসহ নাম না জানা অনেকে। পাতা সংগ্রহকারীরা জানান, প্রতিদিন একজন ১৫ থেকে ২০ বস্তা পাতা সংগ্রহ করতে পারেন। প্রতি বস্তা পাতা এলাকায় ২০ টাকা হারে বিক্রি হয়। যা থেকে ৩০০ থেকে প্রায় ৪০০ টাকা আয় করা সম্ভব হয়। আর যাদের ভ্যানগাড়ী কিংবা অন্য কোন বাহন আছে তারা এই পাতার বস্তাগুলো জেলা শহরে নিয়ে গিয়ে প্রতি বস্তা ৫০ টাকা দরে বিক্রি করেন। তাদের ৪৫০ থেকে ৬০০ টাকা পর্বল্য বাড়তি আয় হয়। আবার এই পাতাগুলো সংগ্রহ করে জমিয়ে রেখে বৈশাখ মাসে একটু বৃষ্টি শুরুর পর বিক্রি করলে দাম আরো বেশি পাওয়া যায় বাজারে তখন তুকনো পাতার চাহিদাও বেড়ে যায়। কথা হয় এলাকার রাজেন ও রূপবানীর সাথে তারা জানায় প্রায় ৩ মুণ ধরে তারা এই তুকনো পাতা কুড়িয়ে জীবিকা নির্বাহ করে আসছে। এই বিশাল শালবনটি আমাদের এই এলাকার দরিদ্র মানুষের জন্য ফাল্গুন চৈত্র মাসে আর্শিবাদ হলে দেখা দেয়। তবে এসব তুকনো পাতার কোন হাট-বাজার এখনও গড়ে উঠেনি। একজন আরেকজন পরিচিতর মাধ্যমে এই পাতা সংগ্রহ ও বিপণনের কাজ প্রাকৃতিকভাবেই করে আসছেন।

Appendix-8

চাঁপাইনবাবগঞ্জের আম গাছগুলোতে মুকুল আসতে শুরু করেছে। নানা ফুলের সঙ্গে সৌরভ ছড়াচ্ছে আমের মুকুলও। আমের মুকুলের মিষ্টি ঘ্রাণে মৌ মৌ করছে প্রকৃতি। মুকুলের সেই সুমিষ্ট সুবাস আন্দোলিত করে তুলছে মানুষের মন।

জানা গেছে, দেড় সপ্তাহ আগে থেকেই গাছে মুকুল দেখা দিতে শুরু করেছে। এখন সময়ের ব্যবধানে তা আরো বাড়ছে। এ বছর গাছে মুকুলের পরিমাণ বেশি। আমচাষি এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট কৃষি সম্প্রসারণ অধিদফতর এবার আমের বাম্পার ফলনের আশা করছেন। সংশ্লিষ্টদের বক্তব্য, প্রাকৃতিক দুর্যোগ না হলে এবং সময়মতো পরিচর্যা হলে চলতি মৌসুমে আমের ভালো ফলন হবে। আর এ কারণেই আশায় বুক বেধে আমচাষিরা শুরু করেছেন পরিচর্যা। তাদের আশা, চলতি মৌসুমে তারা আম থেকে অর্থনৈতিকভাবে লাভবান হবেন।

চাঁপাইনবাবগঞ্জ জেলার শিবগঞ্জ, গোমস্তাপুর, সদর, নাচোল, ভোলাহাট উপজেলায় প্রায় সব এলাকাতেই রয়েছে আমবাগান। লাভজনক হওয়ায় প্রতি বছরই আম বাগানের সংখ্যা বাড়ছে। তবে গড়ে ওঠা নতুন আম বাগানগুলোর প্রায়ই বনেদি জাতের। বিশেষ করে নিয়মিত জাত ল্যাংড়া, গোপালভোগ, ক্ষিরসাপাত ও আশ্বিনা, আমরোপালি জাতেরই গাছ বেশি হচ্ছে।

Appendix-9

Mango buds sprout in C'nawabganj

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Our Correspondent

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CHAPAINAWABGANJ, Feb 23: Mango buds have bloomed on mango trees here with the arrival of the spring.

The mango buds have been noticed in the trees at Shibganj, Gomostapur, Sadar, Nachol and Bholahat Upazilas of the district.

Mango farmers and the Department of Agriculture Extension informed, already a large number of local varieties of young mangoes have started appearing from budding stage. They hoped the upcoming season will be bright for mango farmers of the region if they are able to take necessary steps to make mango cultivation successful and there is no natural calamity.

Appendix-10

750 edn insttts in Kushtia have no Shaheed Minar

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Our Correspondent

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KUSHTIA, Feb 11: At least 750 of 855 educational institutions in six upazilas of the district have no Shaheed Minar, monuments for the martyrs of the Language Movement.

Sources at Kushtia District Education Office said that there are 60 colleges, 300 high schools, 430 primary schools, and 65 madrasas in six upazilas of the district, but among these only 10 colleges, 50 high schools and 45 primary schools have Shaheed Minar.

In all madrasas of the district have no Shaheed Minar, they added.

Nazir Hossain, a class ten student of Khoksa Muragasa High School in Khoksa upazila said, "There is no Shaheed Minar at their school although the students demanded it on many occasions."

Naznin Akhter, a honours student of Kushtia Government Girls' College in the town, said, "We urged our principal for building a Shaheed Minar on the campus but no initiative has been taken yet. Though the government spends lots of money for construction of buildings at educational institutions, only a small amount of the expended money could be allocated for constructing Shaheed Minar."

Kousik Biswas, a class ten student of Kushtia High School, said, "We feel the necessity of a Shaheed Minar here, but the school authority is not taking any initiative for it."

Selim Chowdory, principal of Kushtia Masud Rumi Degree College, said, "I want to see a Shaheed Minar on our college campus, but I cannot do it due to the lack of fund. I urged the government to take step for constructing Shaheed Minar."

However, Koushik Pal, principal of Kushtia Police Line School and College, said, "I constructed a Shaheed Minar on our college campus four years ago with the fund collected from teachers, students, and local donors. Institution chiefs can take such initiative and everybody in the society should extend help from their level."

Saidur Rahman, district education officer, said, "The government rule does not make it mandatory to construct Shaheed Minar at all educational institutions; so, I cannot direct them to construct Shaheed Minar. Institution authorities can construct Shaheed Minar on their own initiative."

Md. Zahir Raihan, deputy commissioner, said, "It is necessary to build Shaheed Minar at every educational institutions to keep the glorious history of Language Movement alive in the mind of our students as it was the first step towards our Liberation War". Money should not be considered an obstruction if there is sincere desire to build Shaheed Minar, he added.