Upazila roundup

Dhamrai

A victim of dowry

JANUARY 13 : A brawl over dowry cost the life of a young housewife in village Beinna under the upazila, police said today, reports UNB.

The victim, Chhayarani (20), hanged herself to death with a rope from a ceiling fan at her house recently.

Relatives of the victim said, Chhayarani's husband had been pressing her hard for a long time for dowry money promised by his father-in- law during his marriage.

Witnesses said,the husband quarrelled with her over dowry on the fateful day.

A case has been filed in this connection.

Meanwhile,Savar police recently recovered nine country made pipe guns from Emandipur and Tatulgura villages and arrested two people in this connection.

Savar

Electric wires stolen

JANUARY 13: Electricity supply has been badly affected following rampant stealing of copper and aluminium wires from different parts of the upazila, reports UNB.

Official sources said, wires worth about Taka two lakh were stolen during last one month.

Functioning of some deep tubewells and rice mills located at Dhamrai and Savar upazilas are being hampered due to large scale stealing of electric wires. Miscreants are stealing the wires from overhead lines.

Local people urged the authorities to take stringent action against the growing menace.

Rangamati

Timbers seized

JANUARY 13: Chittagong Hill Tracts' South Forest Division seized more than 20,000 cubic feet of valuable timbers worth about Tk 60 lakh in a week-long drive ending Wednesday, reports UNB.

The timbers were seized from the so-called lot purchasers of the Forest Department from Jhoom area adjacent to Farua, Alikhiong and Sangrachari ranges of the division, sources said.

It has been alleged that the lot purchasers with the collaboration of some dishonest officials have been extracting timbers illegally for a long time.

The seized timbers of different species include Champaful, Chaplish, Jarul,Telsur, Gamar, Garjan etcetra.

None has yet been arrested in this connection.

Bogra

Diarrhoea claims 16 lives

JANUARY 13: Diarrhoea claimed at least 16 lives and attacked 4,000 others during last month in eight upazilas of the district, officials said, reports UNB.

Unofficial sources, however, put the death toll at 50.

Doctors have attributed scarcity of safe water to outbreak of the disease in Adamdighi, Kahaloo, Nandigram, Sherpur, Gabtali and Sadar upazilas.

Medical teams have been despatched to the affected areas to combat the menace, district Civil Surgeon said.

Feni

Eight degree examinees expelled

JANUARY 13: Eight degree examinees were expelled at government college centre here on the first day on Saturday , reports UNB.

A total of 1,429 candidates are taking part in the examination under Chittagong University, authorities said.

Meanwhile, 400 private candidates failed to appear at the examination from Noakhali centre as the university authorities allegedly failed to supply admit cards in time.

Narail

Bus dacoity

JANUARY 13: Dacoits Saturday stabbed two passengers and robbed Taka10,000 in cash from others from a bus, police said, reports UNB.

According to eyewitnessses,a gang of dacoits numbering five to six boarded the bus at Tulrampur point on Narail-Jessore road in the guise of passengers.

As the bus went some miles ahead, the dacoits started looting belongings of the passengers at dagger point. At one stage they knifed the two victims while they tried to resist the miscreants.

The decoits, however, managed to escape with the booties.

No one has so far been arrested in this connection.

Barisal

Publication ceremony

JANUARY 13 : Publication ceremony of two books of the History of Bakerganj district and the folk literature of Barisal district was held recently at Barisal development society office premises, reports UNB.

The publication ceremony was presided over by Principal Mohammad Sirajul Huq. Dr Karunamoy Goswami, Dr Momin Choudhury, Principal Mohammad Hanif and Principal Mohammad Eunus Khan discussed various aspects of the books.

The function was followed by a musical soirce.

Rat killing drive

BSS adds : The rat-killing drive -'91 was inaugurated at the training centre premises of Barisal Agriculture Extension Department on Wednesday.

Presided over by Mr Abdus Sattar, the function was attended by Dr Nasiruddin, Chief Scientific Officer of Regional Rice Research Institute of Barisal,and Mr Mozammel Hossain Khan, Zonal Manager of BADC.

The meeting was addressed by Maulana Habibur Rahaman, Mr Ashraful Alam, Allauddin Sharif, Shahjahan Sirajee and Dr Kamrul Islam.

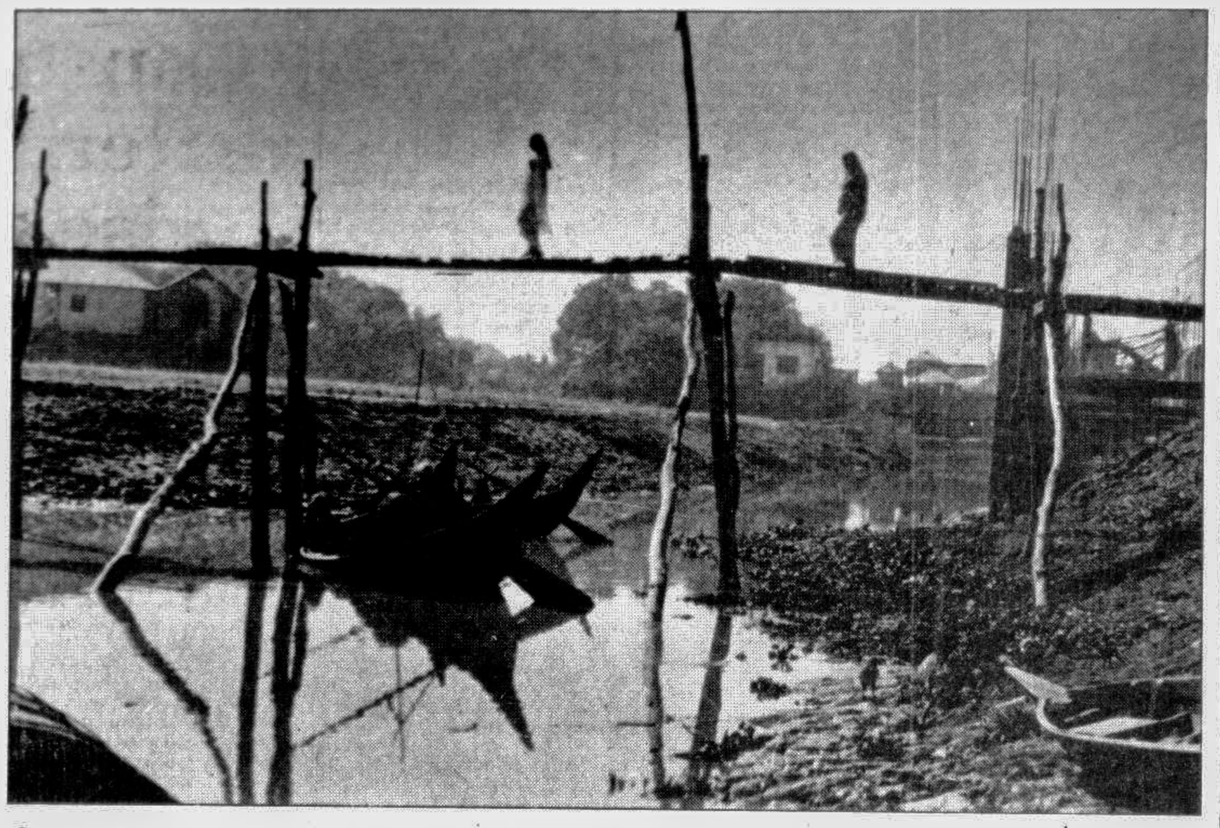
Kushtia

Chamber executives

JANUARY 13 : Ansaruddin Ahmed Raja, Amirul Islam and Bijoy Kumar have been elected unopposed-president and vice-presidents of Kushtia Chamber of Commerce and Industry respectively for this year, reports UNB.

An 18-member Executive Committee has also been elected in the polls held on December 28, according to a press release.

No elections were held during the last two years in this Chamber,the sources added.



Construction of a concrete bridge started long ago over this canal at Keraniganj. But work remains suspended for fund shortage. People are thus compelled to undertake such hazardous crossing over this age-old broken wooden bridge.- Star photo.

Insurgency in Hill Tracts

Chance for political settlement bright

From Our Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Jan 13:- After the fall of Ershad Government, the insurgency in Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) marked a downward trend for the last one month with a brighter prospect for resolving the tribals' issue politially.

During the period, the Chittagong Hill Tracts, with a population of about eight lakhs including members of 13 tribes and three lakh non-tribals, covering an area of 5089 square miles, witnessed a political shake-up.

The greater Chittagong Hill Tracts Students Council, an organisation of tribal students, held rallies and processions in support of their five -point demand that mainly included aboliton of Hill District Councils, withdrawl of army control from hill region, repatriation of tribal refugees before the ensuing parliamentary elecotion and reservation of three parliamentary seats only for the tribals.

Another freshly born organisation with tribals, Chittagong Hill Tracts Hill People's Council, led by its convenor Mr. Bijoy Keton Chakma, also echoed the same sentiments calling for political solution to Hill Tracts issue.

But their demands were resented and countered by other people of the Hill region who observed a day- long strike last December 22 at Khagrachari district and later at other two districts of Rangamati and Bandarbon.

The elected members of the three Hill District Councils also rejected the demands of the Hill Students Council and Hill People's Council saying these were not in the interest of the people but detrimenal to peace prevailing among both tribals and non-tribals.

They also termed the moves of those tribal students and people as conspiracy in league with the Shanti Bahini members and strongly advocated for the increased activities of army.

Goutam Dewan

Chairman of Rangamati District Council, Mr. Goutam Dewan in a statement said the demands of the Hill Students Council were completely against the will of the people of the region as these would undermine the sovereignty of the country.

Mr. Dewan also resented the demand for abolition of the three existing local goverment counils and said that only an elected Parliament would decide as to what should be the fate of these three bodies in the hill region.

The tribal rebels known as Shanti Bahini numbering about 6000, mostly drawn from Chakma tribe, are fighting a 16-year jungle warfare with Bangladesh forces, for autonomy and expulsion of hundreds of Bengali-speaking Muslim settlers from the scenic areas of CHT bordering India and Burma, that left 1340 persons dead and 1060 injured including security personnel. Besides,556 persons including 171 tribal people were abducted by the Shanti Bahini men over the past insurgency period, law enforcing agency sources said.

They said tribals were abducted for their collaboration with the authority.Moreover, 204 tribal rebels were killed and 66 others injured in the fight. About 2500 Shanti Bhini men surrendered with arms and ammunition to the security forces over the past 16 years, official sources disclosed.

Taking the advantge of amnesty for the first time in 1985, 233 Shanti Bahini members surrendered at Rangamati and they all belonged to' Priti faction' led by Priti Chakma.

The trouble began in Chittagong Hill Tracts from 1974 under the leadership of the then parliamentarian Mr. Manabendra Narayan Larma, Official sources said, several rounds of talks aimed at resolving the issue, were held at different times between Bangladesh authority and rebel representatives earlier but those ended inconclusively.

Night post office needed in Netrakona

From Our Correspondent

NETRAKONA, Jan 13: Trade and commercial activities are being hampered greatly in the district due to absence of a nightpost office in the town.

With the upgradation of Netrakona sub-division to a district,the volumes of postal activities have increased to a great extent. But due to shortage of post offices and for want of night post office,most works are to be performed till late hours.

2000 tubewells out of order

About 2000 tubewells under Public Wealth Engineering Department (PHE) have gone out of order in 10 upazilas of the district for long causing acute searcity of pure drinking water.

According to sources, mechanical trouble, lack of proper maintenance and pilferage of spare parts were the main reasons for disorder.

Several representations were given for replacement of those disordered tubewells to the concerned authorities but nothing tangible was done. As a result the people are to depend on pond and river waters.

Meanwhile several intestinal discases have already broken out in the district for drinking impure water, it is learnt.

The work includes construction and reconstruction institutions, clearing of bushes and water hayacinths and reexcavation of derelict ponds.

Political scene

Polls campaign gets fresh momentum

Star Report

Political activists in all parts of the country reared up campaign with renewed energy after the last date of filing nomination for February 27 parliamentary polls which expired on Sunday.

Local units of many political parties, big and small, are holding night-long video shows free of costs for the villagers. Hats and bazars in rural areas are now vibrating with election campaign.

All eyes are set for February 27.

Our Khulna Correspondent writes : The home-coming day of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was observed here by Khulna City Awami League.

A discussion meeting was held in local Awami League office, where Mr. Salahuddin Yusuf was the chief guest and Advocate Sohrab Hossain Chisty presided.

The meeting was addressed by Begum Monojan Sufian,a central leader of AL, Advocate Kazi Abdus Salam and Begum Hosneara Runu.

Another discussion meeting to mark the occasion was held at local Shahid Hadis Park, under the auspices of Bangabandhu Sangskritik Parishad. Presided over by Mr. Anil Kumar Das, the discussion meeting was followed by a cultural function.

JP rally

UNB from Kishoreganj says : A Jatiya Party rally here on Thursday demanded release on former president Hussein Muhammad Ershad and other party leaders.

Held at the local Chamarerghat bus stand, the meeting was addressed, among others, by Alhaj Fazlul Kader, A T M Mostafa, Parvez Mostafa Kamal, Abdul Aziz and Aminul Islam Ratan.

Speakers said that the Jatiya Party workers would continue to work for establishing peace in the country .

The rally was organised in support of JP candidate Nasim Osman who will be contesting the coming parliamentary polls from Narayanganj-5 constituency.

Addressing the rally, Nasim Osman, a former MP and central leader of JP, urged the government to withdraw, what he said, all false cases against former President Hussain Mohammad Ershad and other JP leaders.

The rally at the Narayanganj district JP office at Bangabandhu Road also demanded immediate release of all party leaders, including Ershad.

It was also addressed, among others, by JP disrict general secretary Khwaja Ahsanullah and vice president Ali Asgar Badal.

A procession was brought out after the rally.

UNB from Maijdee Court adds : Angry mob Wednesday beat up the Publicity Secretary of the district Jatiya Party, Ziauddin Toha while he was trying to distribute leaflets here.

The leaflet with a photograph of interned former Vice-President Moudud Ahmed called for release of Ershad and other arrested JP leaders. It was signed by Noakhali Jana Kalyan Samity.

Witnesses said the mob snatched away leaflets from Toha and assaulted him.

Hey day for landlords

From Our Correspondent

KHULNA, Jan 13: Most landlords and houseowners have issued notices to their tenants to increase house rents with effect from this month.

Some tenants complained that their salaries have not been increased compared to the increase in prices of essentials and other commodities.

They also said at this moment of financial hardship they become utterly surprised to receive notice from the owners to increase house rents.

In the port city of Khulna, a section of houseowners has been increasing house rents every month . Specially with the change of every calendar year, house rents are increased according to houseowners whim.

House Rent Control Ordinance Act was introduced in 1963, which remained in force for only one year. Later on, the Ordinance came in force at different occasions but withdrawn several times due to unknown reasons. However, an amendment to the Act was made in 1963 and Rent Control Act was applied into practice in 1984. But it remained in force up to March 17, 1986.

Measures were taken by the administration to enforce House Rent Control Ordinance afresh in 1990, but it has not been implemented.

Problems grip Maulvi Bazar

From Our Correspondent

MAULVI BAZAR, Jan 13: The residents of Maulvi Bazar Pourashava are deprived of civic amenities for a long time.

The Pourashava was established in 1930 covering an area of one square mile with a population of five thousand. At present the Pourashava covers an area of five square miles with a populaion of about 60 thousand.

The condition of roads, drainages, water supply, light are very precarious. Only 13 miles out of 24 miles road are pucca while the rest are simi-pucca or kutcha.

Due to lack of proper repair and maintenance the roads become impossible to walk during the rainy season while during the dry season people have to suffer due to beat of dust in most areas.

Drainage system is not satisfactory at all. Six miles out of 16 miles are pucca. Filthy water and grabages remain stagnant due to blockade of drains by unauthorised encroachers and lack of proper repair and maintenance pollute the surroundings.

There is no street lights in most areas. So the people have to walk under darkness at night.

The residents have been subjected to health hazards owing to impure drinking water. Two deep tubewells, out of four are inoperative.

There is only one hospital in the Pourashava with only 50 beds which is not enough for the residents. The residents do not get adequate and proper treatment in this hospital.Moreover, shortage of doctors, medicine and lack of proper management, the residents suffer much.

Shortage of market is another problem of the poura residents. There are only two markets in the town area with a very short space. At present a large number of shops sit on the road side causing obstacle both to buyers and sellers and to vehicular traffic. Besides, in the rainy season the markets go under rain water.

Most of the educational institutions in the town area are facing various problems like shortage of teacher, accommodation, furniture and want of pure drinking water. There are two colleges including a women's college, four boys high schools, two girls high schools,'about 9 primary schools, two K. G. schools, a Primary Teachers Training Institutes and 15 marktets.

One killed in Faridpur road accident

FARIDPUR, Jan 13: A man was killed and four others sustained injuries in a road accident here on Tuesday, reports UNB.

The victim Shaikh Mujib (60), was killed on the spot.

Prices of essentials up in Narsingdi

From Our Correspondent

NARSINGDI, Jan13: The sudden price spiral of essentials in the local markets has caused much inconveniences to the common people.

The rice of Irri variety is being sold at Tk. 11.50 per kg while it was sold at Tk 10.50 per Kg last week, Paijam and Biroy which were sold at Tk. 11.50 per kg are now being sold at Tk. 13.00 per kg.

When asked the local rice dealers told that rice were not coming to the market sufficiently for sale as because the rice growers did not sell their rice in great quantities for fear of less production of paddy during next irri season due to high price of power and diesel.

Besides, a large number of farias' from Noakhali and Sylhet areas are purchasing different varieties of rice on a large scale from Narsingdi area though it is a food deficit zone. Considering the situation, many of the local rice merchants are also purchasing rice at a high price with the motive of hoarding. If the present rice market situation prevails, price may go much higher.

Besides, price hike of garlic and sugar in the local markets also sugar in the local markets also discontented the public mind in the area. Garlic and sugar are being sold at the rate of Tk. 60.00 and Tk. 32.00 per kg respectively while these two essential commodities were being sold at Tk. 40.00 and Tk. 30.00 per kg respectively last week. Peper and green chilly are also being sold at Tk. 60.00 and Tk 30.00 per kg respectively in the local markets.

Sugarcane output declines in Pabna

From Our Correspondent

PABNA, Jan 13 : Sugarcane growers of Uttar Banga Sugar Mill area and Gopalpur under Ishwardi upazila of the district are suffering extremely due to corruption, malpractice and irregularities by a section of people.

In Uttar Banga Sugar Mill area there are about 7,000 sugarcane cultivators and at least 5,000 acres of land including farmland for Muri sugarcane variety have been put under cultivation.

It is assumed that this year nine lakh mounds of sugarcane will be produced. Though there is adequate supply of necessary seeds, mannual labour, insecticides, still 20 per cent of production has been hampered due to heglgence in duty of some corrupt officers and staff. With 50 officers and a large mumber of staff working in this sugar mill, it was assumed that this year production will shoot up to Taka two crore and 50 lakhs.

Sugarcane cultivators complained that officers and employees engaged in Kaltkapur, Dasuria, Muladuli, Aronkhola and Shahapur and other places are neglecting their duties for which sugarcane production is declining.

Malpractice has been observed in weighing sugarcane. Loans are not given properly to poor cultivators hampering the production .

Though there is definite instruction to select the poor cultivators through a committee, but the mill authorities are selecting rich persons who are not actual cultivators .

Irregularities are found in investment of capital. Moreover, poor cultivators are not paid their dues regularly.

পুবালী ব্যাংক
আপনারই ব্যাংক

আপনার সঞ্চয়ের নিশ্চয়তা
লকারের নিরাপত্তা
ব্যবসার প্রয়োজন এবং
অন্যান্য সব রকমের ব্যাংকিং
সুবিধার জন্যে আমাদের যে কোন
শাখায় যোগাযোগ করুন।

পুবালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড