Upazila roundup

MAGURA

Woman arrested for killing step son

Dec 9 : Police arrested Zamena Khatun on charge of murdering her step son in village Satrujitpur of Sadar upazila here Friday, reports

According to police, a conflict was prevailing between the victim Mohammad Alauddin (30), son of Golam Mostafa and his step mother Zamena Khatun for long.

On the fateful day, at one stage of their hostility, the woman and her relatives suddenly attacked Alauddin and started beating him. Alauddin died on the spot.

The body was sent to morgue for autopsy. A case was filed in this con-

nection and further investigation is going on.

MYMENSINGH Newsman dead

Dec 9: Alokemoy Naha, a noted singer of Tagore songs and also a lawyer, politician and journalist, died of heart attack on Sunday. He was 51, reports UNB.

Naha, suffering from cardiac problem, died at Mymensingh Medical College Hospital at 4.45 am where he was rushed earlier in the morning. He left behind his wife

Sumita Naha, a renowned singer of Tagore songs, and two daughters.

As soon as the news of his death spread in the town, leaders of political parties. students and social organisations visited his residence to pay tributes.

A big mourning procession was brought out from his residence with his body. CPB leaders Saifuddin Ahmed Manik and Shamsuddoha MP were among the mourners in the procession.

Late Alokemoy Naha, former singer of Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra, had a chequered ca-

District Correspondent of Daily Sangbad and Pakistan Times for a long time. He held many other offices, including Vice President of district CPB and TUC Mymensingh, former Vice President of District CPB and TUC Mymensingh, former Vice President and Secretary of Bangladesh Sangbadik Samity, former Vice President and Secretary of Mymensingh Press Club, former Vice President of District Bar and former Vice Chairman of Mymensingh Municipality. He was arrested on several

occasions and kept in custody on political grounds.

BARISAL

Allocation of FWP wheat stalled

Dec 9: New allocation of wheat for Food for Works Programme in eight upazilas of three southern districts were suspended due to alleged irregularities in distribution of last year's wheat, reports UNB.

The upazilas are : Sadar, Banaripara, Gournadi and Babugani of Barisal, Kawkhali of Pirojpur. Dashmina and Baufal of Patuakhali and Tajumuddin Upazila of Bhola District . According to a recent circu-

lar issued by the Relief and Rehabilitation Directorate, a total of 36 upazilas of different districts have been deprived of new allocations for the same

The post-flood rehabilitation projects of these upazilas will be hampered greatly due to non-allocation of wheat, it is alleged.

Normally, the programme provides job opportunities to the distressed women and unemployed men.

RANGPUR

Train service suspended for two hours

Dec 9: Train communication to and from Pirgacha Station remained suspended two hours Thursday following an accident which sparked off protest by the local people. police said, reports UNB.

Azgar Ali (50) of village Banardeghi of Pirgacha Upazila was killed after being hit by an inter-city train while he was crossing the railway line.

The body was sent to morgue for autopsy.

Agitated people of the locality put up a sit-in demonstration on the line demanding construction of a pedestrian over- bridge at the station.

Train communication resumed on the line after fruitful discussion between the protestors and the local administration.

Govt firm to uproot evils from society

Dec 9 : Minister for Social Welfare and Women Affairs Tariqui Islam emphasised the need for unity of nationalist forces to stabilise democratic atmosphere and expedite so cio-economic development. reports BSS.

Addressing a public meeting here on Saturday at Arabpur Union Parisad premises under Sadar Upazila of Jessore District Social Welfare Minister said that vested quarters had become active to jeopardise the congenial condition of the society and fish in the troubled water.

He called for rallying under the banner of Bangladesh Nationalist Party so as to make the society free from all sorts of uncertainly insecurity and disturbance.

Referring to continued violence on the campus and corruption everywhere. Tariqui Islam reiterated the determination of the present people's government to uproot these evils from the society with the active cooperation of peace loving and patriotic people.

He said that the tempo of continued victory of BNP students front of in almost all the educational institutions had made the vested quarters jealous of the popularity of the present democratic govern-

Presided over by Arabpur UP Chairman, the public meeting was also addressed by local BNP, Juba and Chhatra Dal leaders.

NARAIL

Conductors realise exorbitant fares from passengers

Dec 9: Some buses and coasters on Narail-Jessor route have been plying on the roads since Friday though the owners of the vehicles have not yet issued appointment letters to the drivers, reports

But the conductors are allegedly realising exorbitant fares from the passengers with impunity. They have been realising Tk. 30 from each passenger for 30-kilometre long Narail-Jessore road while the fare fixed by the authority is Tk 10, passengers alleged.

CHAPAINAWABGANJ

Bus conductors realise exorbitant fares

Dec 9: Most of the buses and trucks of the district were remained off the roads since December 1 as the drivers were not given appointment letters by the owners, reports

Only five minibuses out of 39 are plying between Chapainawabganj and Rajshahi as the drivers obtained appointment letters from their respective owners.

Besides, all the Dhaka bound buses except BRTC are also off the road since November 29.

The travelling people of the district have been facing immense inconveniences due to the scarcity of buses.

Moreover, acute scarcity of petrol has also been prevailing in the district, it is learnt.

COMILLA

Mukta Comilla Dibash observed

Dec 9: Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khandker Mosharraf Hossain on Sunday inaugurated an eight-day colourful Victory Mela at the Town Hall premises in observance of the "Mukta Comilla Dibash," reports BSS.

On this day in 1971, the Freedom Fighters in the War of Independence liberated Comilia from the occupation of the Pakistani Forces.

Various stalls are selling handicrafts and cottage industry produces, books and art objects at the mela.

Earlier, an all-party procession led by the Minister pa raded different roads of the town and dispersed at the mela venue. Begum Rabeya Choudhury MP and Mohammad Abu Taher MP were also present on the occasion.

Addressing a rally of Freedom Fighters at the local Shilpakala Academy at noon, Dr. Mosharaf Hossain called upon them to work unitedly being imbued with the spirit of the War of Independence for building the country.

He said that the objectives of the War of Independence would not be fulfilled unless peace and discipline could be established in the society.



Tomato, a winter vegetable has started appearing in the markets. Photo shows a trader waiting for the customers at a wholesale market in Norsingdi. - Star photo

Malpractice by operators alleged

Phone service irregular in Maulvi Bazar

From Our Correspondent

MAULVIBAZAR, Dec 9: The telephone subscribers of the district have been facing untold sufferings due to the malpractice of the local staff of the Telephone Department.

Some of the telephone operators have understanding with a class of dishonest subscribers who get their internal and overseas phone connections easily, it is alleged.

The general subscribers do not get their connection after several reminders. The phone operators use to give lame excuses for the non-availability of the connection, it is informed.

The subscribers, in case of emergency, are not given connection after a lot of request. On the other hand, the dishonest subscribers easily get it. They do not have to pay the charged even. One of these kind of subscribers who did not want to be identified told that they used to pay monthly payments to the operators and that is why they are given connections as early as possible. The subscriber also informed that he pays a nominal bill and monthly payments.

The subscribers who pay monthly payments use the phone frequently and keep the

line engaged for long time. The monthly payments also help them keep their phone always OK.

The general subscribers complained that their sets remain dead for maximum time. Though the operators make it operative, it works for few hours only.

The dishonest subscribers use to earn money through their phone as it work as a exchange. Some local travelling agents and jewellers are engaged in this kind of illegal earnings, it is alleged. They charge only Taka 400 for every

overseas call. It is reported that the phone operators have link with the Dhaka Exchange and they are accordingly paid. They have earlier mutually fixed the different rates. For internal illegal calls, the dishonest subscribers have to pay Taka 1500 for internal calls and Taka 10,000 for overseas calls. it is gathered.

A informed source disclosed that the government is deprived of thousands of Taka by the alleged corrupt telephone operators every year.

The concerned authorities have been urged to take necessary action to mitigate the sufferings of the telephone sub-

Five killed

Five persons were killed in Sylhet during the last two weeks in separate incidents.

Abdun-Nur (60), a retired police constable of Sreemongol town was crushed to death under the wheels of a running train at Sreemongol Railway

Station. Shamsul Alam Sumar (13) son of Mr. Abdur Rob, Agricultural Officer, Maulvibazar district allegedly committed suicide recently. The victim was a school student

Lukee (7) son of Shaheed Mia of Nabiganj Bazar drowned in a pond behind their house. Gonu Mia (65) of village Shadipur under Kulaura uapzila was allegedly killed by some miscreants at Fanai ferry ghat recently.

Asgar Ali (60) of Ashigar village under Fenchuganj uapztla was beaten to death by his son Monat Alt following a family dispute recently.

Cases have been registered with the police in these con-

Adulterated foodstuff on sale in Dinajpur

From Our Correspondent

DINAJPUR, Dec 9: The sale of adulterated foodstuff throughout the district is rampant and causing health haz-

With the increase of population, the towns, bazars, hats, stations, ghat and other commercial places have been developed to cope with the de-Most of the hotels of these

busy places are dirty and unhealthy. The owners of these hotels keep their items open A very few owners have got licenses to continue their business, it is alleged.

A consumer of Dinajpur town told that is very hard to collect pure edible oil and mild from the market. For more profit, they sellers

mix low guilty oils with the mustard, soybean oil it is alleged. It is reported that an organ-

ised group of dishonest people

are engaged in this kind of criminal activities who are repotedly patronised by some well placed people of the district. The ignorant and innocent people buy these sort of adul-

terated items in their good faith. They are ultimately attacked by various diseases. The poor customers usually prefer the items which cost less. Some people of the town complained that the employ ees of the Health Department

are seen inactive. The law inforcing agency people are also in different regarding the mat-

Cattle disease have claimed 200 and attacked about 5000 more in all thirteen upazilas of the district. The most affected upazilas are : Goraghat, Chirirbander,

Bochagonal, Phulbart, Biram-

Cattle diseases claim 200

It is informed that most of the animals are dting without treatment. The employees of the Livestock Department are not visiting the villagers after repeated requests. The employees sad that they had no programme now, it is alleged. Some of the owners of the

pur. Nawabgant and Kaharul.

disease-hit cattle are treating their cows at their own costs. The medicines are not also available in the market. Due to the non-supply of vaccine and other necessary drugs, almost 80 per cent of cattle are dying. it is gathered.

One Khurshid Alam of Kaugaon under Chirirbander Upazila told this correspondent that over 100 are suffering from these disease but the Livestock Department employees expressed their inability to send any one of the staff to the affected areas.

Borguna lacks civic amenities

BORGUNA, Dec 9: The district headquarters is

lacking minimum civic amenities although the 50,000 dwellers have been subjected to pay enhanced urban taxes.

The problems facing the citizens include poor condition of roads, paucity of drinking water, absence of recreational facilities and bad drainage sys-

The roads are narrow and garbages remain scattered for days together.

Street lights are hardly seen and most part of the town plunges into darkness after sunset.

Supply of drinking water is

absent and no plan has been drawn up for setting up a water supply system. Service latrines are not cleaned which pollute the environment. There has been influx of large number of government

officials and families after the upgradation of the former Subdivision but facilities required by a district headquarters have not yet been provided. Local elite alleged that their

repeated appeal to the Pourashava authorities fell into deaf ears.

Public Library

The Public Library of the district located in a rented house, is being run by two

bearers only.

There is no Librarian, no Cataloguer and no other staff for administration and maintenance work.

A good number of valuable books are found missing and no attempt has yet been made for recovery of the missing books.

A section of readers particularly those who belong to the upper class of the society and the government officials borrow valuable books but do not return them, it is alleged.

Local elite demanded steps for renovation and development of the library for the benefit of its real users.

Children's word

The Sadar Hospital here is in dire need of a children's ward, local leaders and hospital sources said.

The hospital which has only two wards - one for male and the other for female patients lack a Children's Ward and the child patients are accommodated in the crowded female

Over 100 children come to the hospital everyday for treatment and 5 to 10 of them are admitted while the rest are sent back without treatment, the sources added.

UP polls campaign gaining momentum

From Our Correspondent

RAJBARI, Dec 9: The campaign for Union Parishads election is gaining momentum all over the district after the declaration of the date for the election.

The probable candidates have started visiting their respective areas to mobilise support in the ensuing polls. The supporters are gathering at the local restaurents after the sun set. The supporters, workers and relatives of the candidates are moving from door to door of the voters.

Besides the existing chairmen, new faces are also seen who are going to participate the elections.

the past polls are also participating in large numbers. All the candidates are work-

ing seriously in their favour at the assurance that the election would be free and fair.

The defeated candidates of

Six hurt in clash

Six persons including a local MP were injured in a clash between the members of Biplabi Chhatra Maitri and Jatyotabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) at Pangsa upazila on Sunday

evening. According to reports. Biplabi Chhatra Moitri brought out a procession where the JCD supporters attacked. Chasing and counter-chasing continued for hours together. At one stage the JCD supporters started pelting stones on the procession, in which the local MP and five others received injuries.

The police had to resort lathi charge to disperse the agitated students.

Banana cultivation

The production of banana has increased in the district to a great extend.

growing in plenty in Baliakhali. Pangsa, Goalundo and Rajbari Sadar upazilas. The sagar and sabri are the two main kinds of banana are grown in the dis-Banana cultivation is in-

Various kinds of banana are

creasing in the district as it proved more profitable. Four thousand acres of land are now under banana cultivation, a source disclosed. It is further learnt that the farmers in the district are earning more than one crore taka annually from it. A farmer informed this cor-

respondent that they need Taka four thousand to cultivate one acre of land from here they can earn Taka 15 thousand at least. He further disclosed that if financial assistance is provided to the growers, the cultivation would increase further.

The growers of the district have urged the concerned authorities to provide financial assistance to the economically profitable farming.

BIP completed before schedule

BARISAL, Dec 9: The Bhola Irrigation Project (BIP) has been completed at a cost of Taka 63.8 crore at least 4 years behind schedule, reports

But farmers in the area said they were yet to get any benefit out of the ambitious project.

Meanwhile, a huge tract of land in project area has been eroded by Meghna and Tetulia rivers. If it is not contained the entire command area may be washed away in the next ten years, farmers said.



in a big queue with containers to purchase kerosene at a Star photo local depot.

Notes from Gaibandha

From Our Correspondent GAIBANDHA, Dec 9: Two students were injured in a clash between the supporters of JCD and BCL of Sadullapur

College recently. On the day of the incident the college was opened after a vacation. The two groups of students began counter slogans and at one stage chasing and counter chasing started between the supporters of rival groups which ultimately turned into a clash. The college authority, was however compelled to close the institute for indefinite period.

Town uplift plan

The work on power development plan under 14-Town Development Project is going on in full swing at Gaibandha District Town.

The plan is being implemented under the financial assistance of World Bank. A fund of Taka six crore fifty lakh will spend for the implementation of the plan.

Under this plan electric poles and power supply line will be replaced.

Besides, about 77 additional transformers are being set up at different locations to improve power supply position.

Students rally

Students of Gaibandha Mohila College brought out a procession demanding the implementation of their 7-point demand.

Later, a rally was held at the college campus. Miss Alfar Begum. Secretary of Sangsad. Lubna Yasmin and Hosne Ara Begum addressed the rally. The demands include in-

crease of teachers, restoration of hostel and setting up of a canteen. They also declared for greater movement if the demands are not realised immediately. Ansar VDP training

A 21-day-long winter train-

ing of Gaibandha District Ansar

VDP started here at local Ansar

Club. The training course will continue till December 6. A total of 175 trainees from Shaghata, Sadullapur. Palashbari and Sadar upazilas participated at the training course. The course will include arms operating, physical exer-

cise and development oriented

programme. The programme is conducted by District Ansar

Adjutant Mr. Aminul Islam.

Women workshop One-day workshop on the effort of women to resist death of child and mother was held at local BD Hall recently. Mr. Abul Basher Ahmed Chowdhury, Deputy Commissioner inaugurated it while Dr. AKM Shamsuddin, Civil Surgeon was on the chair. Those who spoke on the occasion were Dr. Pradip

Karmaker, Dr. Shaikh Helal and Dr. S A Khan. All the women members of 82 union parishads took part

in the workshop. Committee dissolved

Gaibandha District Unit of BNP was dissolved in an order issued by Joint Secretary General of BNP and Minister for Home Affairs Mr. Abdul

Matin Chowdhury. A 46-member convening committee was formed with Mr. Badrul Islam Saju as Convenor and Mr. Rezaul Hug Chowdhury and Mr. Mottur Rahman Tuku, Joint

Convenors.

Dacoity A dacoity was committed at the house of one Shahabuddin Montu of village Barkatpur under Palashbari Upazila, re-

cently. The miscreants looted away gold. TV set and other valuables worth about Taka 70.000. A case was filed with

Palashbari thana.

Dacoit nabbed A notorious gang leader **Dulu Mia of Sundarganj Upazila** was arrested by local Ansar and VDP members in a drive re-

They also recovered weapons from his possession. Later the accused was handed over to local thana.

3 houses gutted

Property worth about Taka fifty thousand were gutted in a devastating fire at village Kanchipara under Fulchari Upazila recently.

Three houses were burnt to ashes.

The fire originated from a oven when a five-year-old child was plying with fire.

Rabi crop farming Agriculture Extension

Department(AED) has taken up a plan to bring 1.24 lakh acres of land under rabt crop cultivation in four upazilas of the district during the current sea-He said 321 demonstration

tical training on modern methods of cultivation to increase production. Essential HYV seeds, fertil-

plots would be set up for prac-

izers, pesticides, agriculture inputs and cash loan will also be distributed among the farmers, under the crop diversification programme, he said.