

Upazila roundup

KISHOREGANJ

Anti-social activities rampant at rly station

Dec 29 : Bhatrab Railway Station, one of the busiest railway junction in the country has become a place of floating prostitutes, smugglers and musclemen, local leaders and people alleged, reports UNB.

Anti-social and unlawful activities have been increasing under the very nose of the railway authorities and even the law enforcing agencies.

Thousands of passengers who come and wait here to travel to various destinations are usually being harassed by miscreants and prostitutes.

The local leaders and passengers urged the authorities to look into the matter and solve the problem without any delay.

FARIDPUR

Tk 400 cr IDP taken up

Dec 29 : Government has taken up a programme for massive infrastructure development in greater Khulna, Jessore and Kushtia Zone under Infrastructure Development Programme (IDP), reports UNB.

According to official sources, the objectives of the programme are to build, rehabilitate and maintain rural infrastructures such as water schemes, feeder roads, excavation and re-excavation of canals and drains, growth centres and rural markets.

Asian Development Bank (ADB) has assured to provide Taka 400 crore for implementation of the IDP across the country. A high powered mission of ADB led by Y Kobayashi discussed at length about the implementation of the programme with Local Government Engineering Bureau officials.

A large number of rural people including women would be provided with short and long term employment during this implementation of the programme. Execution of the project will be started from January 1993 and is expected to be completed within next seven years.

HABIGANJ

Bridge on Hobiganj-Mirpur Road demanded

Dec 29: Thousands of people of Lamatai Union of Bahubal Upazila of the district have been facing multifarious problems in the absence of a bridge on Hobiganj-Mirpur Road, reports UNB.

Every day a large number of devotees from far-flung areas visit the mazars of saints at Sultanahi village in the union named after a great saint and poet Sultan of the middle age, through this road. But the Moshajan Ferry Ghat on the road has been hindering smooth communication.

Daily necessities including fish are being supplied to the capital from the famous trade centre of Kottadi Bazar of the union. But due to absence of a bridge movement of important goods are hampered causing much inconvenience to the people.

Boat capsized near the 100 year-old ferry ghat, killed many people during the last 50 years.

The road is the main means for communication between Habiganj and Sylhet districts. If a bridge is constructed it will reduce the distance between Habiganj and Bahubal.

Local people alleged that the previous governments pledged time and again to construct a bridge at the ferry ghat but nothing was done.

Local people have urged the present government to construct the much-needed bridge to redress the sufferings of the people.

PABNA

171 posts of pry teachers lying vacant

Dec 29 : At least 171 posts of primary school teachers have been lying vacant hampering education in the district, reports UNB.

According to an official source, of the total, 60 posts of Headmasters are lying vacant for a long time negating Universal Primary Education Programme of the government. Moreover, many schools have been facing acute shortage of educational appliances and drinking water facilities are also quite unsatisfactory.

MAGURA

Over 1 lakh pry text books to be distributed

Dec 29 : District Education Office will distribute 1,01,100 sets of text books among the students of 361 primary schools in 4 upazilas of the district from the first week of January next, reports UNB.

Under the Compulsory Primary Education Programme, these books will be distributed in 267 government primary schools and 94 non-government primary schools, official sources said.

Of the total text books, 33,100 sets will be distributed among the students of class one, 21,600 sets for class two, 18,600 for class three, 15,200 sets for class four and the 12,600 sets for class five.

Upazila Education Offices will distribute the books. The distribution will be completed within January, the sources added.

CHITTAGONG

MP, UZ official manhandled

Dec 29 : A Member of Parliament and an upazila official were manhandled allegedly by JCD activists for not cooperating in enlisting their friends as contractors, reports UNB.

Witnesses said the attackers first gheraoed the office of Upazila Engineer, Mohammad Mujibur Rahman in Boalkhali at 2.30 pm and beat him and his peon after he refused to accept their requests.

MAULVIBAZAR

Fund crisis hits fishermen

Dec 29 : Fishermen of the district have been facing great difficulties in pursuing their vocation for want of fund and price hike of the fishing appliances, reports UNB.

About 10,000 fishermen of six upazilas have been so badly affected that a majority of them are forced to take up other vocation for mere survival.

The abnormal price of fishing nets, boats and other related appliances has crippled the economic condition of the fishing community.

A number of fishermen of the district said that they were not getting financial support because of undue interferences of the local influential people.

The jalmahals, beels and other water bodies are being lease out to these non-professionals who are widely exploiting the genuine fishermen.

BARISAL

Sapling sale earning stands at Tk 10 lakh

Dec 29 : The Khulna Afforestation Division under Barisal Zone earned Tk 10,20,723 by selling different varieties of saplings from eight nurseries in five districts of the division during the last 16 months, reports BSS.

An official source said a total of 5,91,736 plants was sold among the members of the public during the period.

The districts covered by this programme are Barisal, Jhalakathi, Pirojpur, Bagherhat and Khulna.

GOPALGANJ

Cattle disease hampering cultivation

Dec 29 : Cattle disease has broken out in the five upazilas of the district in the current season hampering rabi crop cultivation seriously, reports UNB.

The upazilas are Sadar, Kotwalipara, Moksedpur, Tongipara and Kashani.

According to an unofficial report, about 450 cattleheads died of the disease during the last few days.

The disease locally known as 'Khura' and 'Gala fula' has attacked at least 2,000 cattle-head in different villages, the report said.

Local people alleged that local Livestock Department has taken no step as yet to prevent the disease.

Farmers urged the authorities to supply necessary medicine to combat the disease on urgent basis.

According to another report, cattle disease has also broken out in an epidemic form in Borguna district. It is reported that over 500 cattle-head died so far in Borguna region.



INTER-CITY TRAIN SERVICE: Two bogies of the Mahanagar Prohati were derailed at the mid-point of Luxum-Gunobati railway stations on Friday last. Many passengers were injured in the incident. Another train was also derailed at the same spot one and a half months before. — Photo by Mr. Zakaria.

Pests attack crops on 20,000 acres of land

From Our Correspondent

RAJBARI, Dec 29: The standing crops on about 20 thousand acres of land have been attacked by pests in Rajbari district.

The farmers identify the pests as shishkata and goundi poka. The worst affected upazilas are Baliakandi, Gualundo, Pangsa and Rajbari Sadar.

Reliable sources informed that the Agriculture Extension Department had supplied only five spray machines and engaged field workers to fight the pests in the affected areas. The supplied machine and field staff are quite insufficient to the demand, local people say.

Pure insecticides are hardly available in the local market. The farmers whose economic condition is very bad due to constant floods and drought can not buy the insecticides at a high price, it is learnt.

While visiting some affected areas, this correspondent found that the pest attack is increasing very fast. If sufficient steps are not taken the entire crops may be destroyed, some experienced farmers said.

The concerned authorities have been requested to take immediate steps to save the crops of the vast tract of land of the localities.

About 100 high schools and madrasahs are facing manifold problems for a long time.

Most of the high schools and madrasahs can not pay the salaries to the teachers as there is no fund for the purpose, it is informed. The students who are poor can not pay tuition fees. Most of the institutions have got no other source of income for which they are to depend mainly on government grant.

For shortage of fund, the authorities can not provide the students with accommodation, teaching staff, seating arrangement and other facilities.

The madrasahs are the worst hit of the crisis. As the students are too poor and that is why they can not pay tuition fees. The authorities of the institutions are to depend on the government grant only.

Most of the tubewells of the institutions remain out of order for which the students are to collect drinking water from the neighbouring houses.

The inadequate supply of educational appliances and other requisite materials hampers the education of the institutions.

The concerned authorities have been urged to take necessary steps to mitigate the sufferings of the teachers and taughts of the institutions of the districts.

55 hurt in clashes

CHANDPUR, Dec 29: At least 25 people were injured, five of them seriously in a clash between supporters of two union parishad chairman candidates of Kalyanpur Union in sadar upazila on Tuesday last, reports UNB.

Local people said, the clash ensued when processions of both the groups were crossing each other near Adomkhan Road during their electioneering campaign.

Among the injured five were admitted to Chandpur Sadar Hospital with serious injuries and the rest were given first aid.

The clash took place between the supporters of BNP backed UP Chairman candidate Mariam Begum and Awami League backed Humayun Kabir, eyewitnesses said.

A report from Habiganj says : At least 30 people were injured, 12 of them seriously in a clash between two rival groups of people at Dawlatpur in Baniachong Upazila.

The clash was a sequel of a past incident of quarrel between two people of the same village over the issue of destroying a paddy field.

Cold wave leaves one dead

BARGUNA, Dec 29 : The cold wave sweeping through the district claimed one life in the town Saturday night, reports UNB.

The victim Chandra Banu (55), wife of Ramzan Ali of Ghotkhali in Amtali Upazila, came to the town in search of livelihood.

Having failed to get any shelter she slept on the pavement at night and died there.

She was buried at a local graveyard with the help of Bastuhara Samity.

Tk 100 cr Danish assistance for development of roads

From Our Correspondent

BARISAL, Dec 29: The Danish Government has allocated Taka one hundred crore for the development of the roads and highways of Barisal and Patuakhali districts.

Of the total allocation, Taka 40 crore will be spent for the development of roads and highways of Barisal district and Taka 60 crore for the roads and highways of Patuakhali.

Schemes have been prepared under a five-year plan for the development and expansion of the regional highway of Barisal-Pirojpur via Bhandaria with an estimated cost of Taka 20 crore, development and other works of 20 upazila link roads under Barisal, Pirojpur and Jhalokathi districts with an estimated cost of Taka 20 crore.

It is learnt that the maximum fund has been allocated for the Barisal-Bhandaria road. The construction of the Patuakhali-Borguna road via Amtali will be started during this financial year.

The rest of the amount Taka 60 crore will be spent for the construction work of the important roads of Patuakhali and Borguna districts.

Taka three crore and 65 thousand have been sanctioned for the development of Upazila road links in six southern districts of Barisal, Patuakhali, Pirojpur, Jhalokathi, Bhola and Borguna during the current financial year.

Of the total, Taka two crore 35 lakh has been allocated for Barisal, Pirojpur and Jhalokathi districts, Taka 55 lakh for Patuakhali and Borguna districts and Taka 75 lakh for Bhola district.

With the total allocation, 35 upazila link roads in Barisal, Pirojpur and Jhalokathi districts, 8 upazila link roads in Patuakhali and Borguna districts and 11 upazila link roads in Bhola district will be constructed during the financial year.

According to a departmental source, the works will not be completed with the mentioned amount of money.

More four crore Taka has also been allocated for the repair of the existing roads during the financial year.

Canal digging plan

A BSS report says: Twelve canals would be re-excavated under the National Canal Digging Programmes within two months at Bhola and Pirojpur districts.

This was decided at the first meeting of the Canal Digging Programme in Bhola and Pirojpur, held here recently with State Minister for Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control Mosharef Hossain Shahjahan in the chair.

The State Minister directed the local leadership to motivate people for taking up massive programmes in this connection.

Mr Shahjahan laid emphasis on the excavation of derelict and dried up canals at different upazilas and unions on priority basis in the two districts.

Another report adds: A total of 2,94,300 sets of primary school text books will be distributed among the students of 952 government and 342 non-government primary schools in ten upazilas of Barisal district free of cost in the year under Universal Primary Education Programme (UPEP).

The District Education Office source said, of the total, 40,400 sets of books are for class five, 49,600 sets for class four, 52,300 sets for class three, 56,200 sets for class two and 9,5800 sets for class one.

The distribution of books will start from January 1, 1992 next, the source said.

Notes from Madaripur

From Our Correspondent

MADARIPUR, Dec 29 : The wine sellers are using sign-board of herbal medicine to avoid police action.

The open sale of wine increasing anti-social activities in the town.

The local people have urged the concern authorities to take necessary action against the illegal sale of wine.

JASAS meeting held

A workers meeting was organised by Madaripur district unit of Jatiyatabadi Samajik Sangkritik Sangstha (JASAS) at its office premises recently.

The meeting was presided over by the JASAS Convenor A K M Azad of Madaripur district unit. Among others Shahabuddin Ahmed, F M Ibrahim, Ali Asgor Khoka and Salim Mia spoke in the meeting.

Night post office

Trade and commercial activities are being hampered greatly in the district due to absence of a night post office in the town.

The volumes of postal activities have increased by the upgradation of Madaripur Sub-Division to a district.

Cotton price hike

Production of age-old traditional cotton has decreased with gradual distinction of Shimul trees in Madaripur, Shariatpur, Gopalganj, Faridpur and Rajbari districts of Faridpur zone.

It is learnt, there were abundant Shimul trees in these areas but most of the trees are decaying due to absence of proper care. Consequently, the prices of Shimul cotton has increased.

Scarcity of fish

Due to indiscriminate catching of fish-fry at different upazilas of the district by current nets, making the fish production down.

The fishermen are catching undersized fish in rivers, canals, beels and ponds which creating the scarcity of fish in the market.

A local source told this correspondent that a section of unscrupulous fishermen are engaged in the unlawful activities which are decreasing fish resources in the district. The government has sanctioned 310 metric tons of wheat valued at Taka 17.86 lakh for repair of roads in six upazilas of the district under 'Food for Work' Programme in the current fiscal year.

Official sources said destitute women would be mainly employed under the programme which will continue till January.

Traders hoarding contraband goods

JHENIDAH, Dec 29 : Smuggling in the border districts of Jhenidah, Jessore, Chuadanga, Meherpur and Kushtia has increased following the announcement of government decision to launch anti-smuggling drive, reports UNB.

Buying and selling of contraband goods have increased as a section of unscrupulous businessmen are hoarding the smuggled goods. The customers are also buying the contrabands in large quantity apprehending that prices will go up after the drive is launched.

Different markets of the area are still flooded with smuggled sarrees, winter clothes, fruits, spareparts, salt, cosmetics, household materials, crockeries, electronic goods, sugar and cattle.

Local people alleged that various goods worth lakhs of taka are being smuggled into the country and out to India every night through different points from Kushtia, Benapole, Daulatpur, Jhannagar, Chougacha, Dhopakali, Shubalpur, Barnishapur, Goyaspur, Putkhal, Raghunathpur, Bahadurpur. Benapole is the vital point of smuggling.

There is an illegal route at Sadhipur Ghat, 2 kilometres North of Benapole checkpoint for coming and going of people from both India and Bangladesh. The route is locally known as 'Dhur path' and the trespassers pay Taka 200 per head to the 'dalals' for making the route safe.

Local people alleged that there is a mutual contract between the 'dalals' and the law enforcing agencies in maintaining these illegal routes.

The incoming contraband goods have been paralysing the country's industries for a long time. The textile industry is the worst hit. Goods like bras, silver, foreign electronics, old garments, polyester cloth, betel nut etc. are being smuggled out of the country.

The Commander of Jessore BDR, Lt. Col. Mubarak told UNB that smuggling has gone down in the area following the announcement of government's anti-smuggling drive. He said he BDR personnel seized contrabands worth about Taka 12 crore during the last eleven months.

Malnutrition, diseases leave 20 animals dead

Irregularities in zoo

RAJSHAHI, Dec 29 : At least 20 animals died in the local zoo over the last 4 years due to malnutrition, lack of proper maintenance and medicare facilities, reports UNB.

Official sources said a large number of rare species animals died and many others were suffering from various diseases in the country's second largest zoo.

It is also in grip of manifold problems, including financial constraints and alleged mismanagement of the administration.

Local people alleged nothing tangible was done to protect the zoo and demanded that it be nationalised and steps taken for its extension and development.

One of three bears, one of two hyacinas, one of two 'gaurs' (a rare species of cow), one 'dumba' (thick-tailed sheep), two peacocks, one 'sumber' deer and one vulture reportedly died of various diseases in the absence of proper treatment.

One of the four leopards fled away from the zoo and was allegedly killed by the people. Another one died of cancer.

Two donkeys died of hydropobia after being bitten by rabid dogs. The only red panda died due to malnutrition and lack of favourable environment.

One 'sumber' deer was killed by electric shock while entangled in electric wires. Two young crocodiles of a rare species died for unfavourable condition in a small pond.

Two young 'hanuman' (black-faced monkey) were killed by the adult ones. Turtles of larger species had also expired many days ago while the only camel died of malnutrition.

According to the sources, the authorities require about Taka 1.5 lakh every month for payment of salaries of its staff and to meet the cost of food, treatment and protection of the animals.

But, the zoo earns only Taka 68 thousands per month from ticket-sale and for the rest of the money required it has to depend on subsidy.

The local Zilla Parishad usually provides the subsidy which now becomes a great burden for it.

The zoo, established in 1983, had 313 animals of 71 species till 1987.

Hundreds of people visit the zoo every day from distant places of the southern districts of Rajshahi, Natore, Chapai Nawabganj and Naogaon.

Group-B : Construction of 500 mm dia RCC pipe over borrowpit on Low Level Canal near RPP site at Ch. 180M at Hathazari, Dist. Chittagong during 1991-92.

Group-D : Construction of off-Take structure MIDIR1, MIDSRI, MIS8AR1, MIS8R1, MIS9R1, MIS10R1, and MIS11R1 of North supply canal in connection with Halda Irrigation Extension Sub-Project at Hathazari, Dist. Chittagong during 1991-92.

Group-A : Tk. 4,61,516/-

Group-B : Tk. 4,39,461/-

Group-D : Tk. 2,77,692/-

2 1/2 % (Two and half per cent) of the quoted amount.

From 4.1.92 to 6.1.92 up to 12.00 Noon.

On 6.1.91 at 1.00 PM.

'D' Class BWDB enlisted contractors as per their financial capacity.

1) Sonali Bank, Bahadderhat branch, Chittagong.

2) Executive Engineer, Muhuri O&M, Divn, BWDB, Feni.

3) Executive Engineer, Comilla O&M Division, BWDB, Comilla.

Executive Engineer, Chittagong O&M Division-1, BWDB, Chittagong.



Tender Notice

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1. Tender No | : 33/1991-92 | |
| 2. Name of work | : Group-A | : Construction of off-Take structures MIS1R1, MIS2R1, MIS3R1, MIS4R1, MIS6R1, MIS7R1, MIS1T1, MIS2T1, MIS3T1, MIS4T1 and MIS5T1 of North supply canal in connection with Halda Irrigation Extension Sub-Project at Hathazari, Dist. Chittagong during 1991-92. |
| | : Group-B | : Construction of 500 mm dia RCC pipe over borrowpit on Low Level Canal near RPP site at Ch. 180M at Hathazari, Dist. Chittagong during 1991-92. |
| | : Group-D | : Construction of off-Take structure MIDIR1, MIDSRI, MIS8AR1, MIS8R1, MIS9R1, MIS10R1, and MIS11R1 of North supply canal in connection with Halda Irrigation Extension Sub-Project at Hathazari, Dist. Chittagong during 1991-92. |
| 3. Estimated cost | : Group-A | : Tk. 4,61,516/- |
| | : Group-B | : Tk. 4,39,461/- |
| | : Group-D | : Tk. 2,77,692/- |
| 4. Earnest money | : 2 1/2 % | (Two and half per cent) of the quoted amount. |
| 5. Date and time of receiving tender | : From 4.1.92 to 6.1.92 up to 12.00 Noon. | |
| 6. Date and time of opening tender | : On 6.1.91 at 1.00 PM. | |
| 7. Nature of contractor | : 'D' Class BWDB enlisted contractors as per their financial capacity. | |
| 8. Name and address of offices where the tender documents will be available | : 1) Sonali Bank, Bahadderhat branch, Chittagong. | |
| | : 2) Executive Engineer, Muhuri O&M, Divn, BWDB, Feni. | |
| | : 3) Executive Engineer, Comilla O&M Division, BWDB, Comilla. | |
| 9. Name and address of advertiser | : Executive Engineer, Chittagong O&M Division-1, BWDB, Chittagong. | |

PANI-377/91-92
DFFQ/15822-23/12

G-1140