Upazila roundup

GAZIPUR

BKB to disburse Tk 11cr agri loan

Jan 4: Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKB) has taken up a programme to disburse Taka 11 crore loan among the farmers of the five upazilas of the district during the current fiscal year, reports UNB.

The loans will be utilised for farming, cattle raising, poultry rearing, irrigation and purchasing of agricultural machinery and accessories, a BKB source said.

Of the total amount, Taka one crore will be allocated as crop loan, Taka one crore for poultry and dairy and the rest

for other agro-based projects, the source added. Last year the bank disbursed Taka 10 crore in the district of which Taka 2 crore

CHAPAINAWABGANJ

has been realised so far.

Dacoits loot Tk 72,000 rice

Jan 4: A gang of armed dacoits looted 95 bags of rice worth about Taka 72,000 from LSD Godown at Nachol Upazila recently, police said, repots

The miscreants who came on a truck, attacked the godown with deadly weapons and decamped with the booty, the godown guards said. Local DC (Food) visited the

spot after the incident. A case has been registered with the local police in this connection.

PABNA

Pry education plan inaugurated

Jan 4: The Compulsory Primary Education Programme inaugurated here at local Banomati Institute Wednesday, reports UNB.

Presided over by UNO of Sadar upazila Sree Satlendra Mohan Borman, Moulana Md Abdus Sobhan MP and Deputy Commissioner Md Abu Solaiman Chowdhury were present in the inaugural function as chief and special guests respectively.

Among others, Primary Education Officers Mirza Shahidul Haque, Md Habibur Rahman and Mir Khairul Bashar spoke on the occasion. About 60,000 children will

go to be school under the programme, it is expected.

RANGAMATI

Tk 31 lakh timber scized

Jan 4 : Forest officials have seized a huge quantity of ille gally extracted timber valued at Taka 31 lakhs during the last few months, reports UNB.

The timber, fliegally extracted from the government's reserve forests of Rangamati region, were recovered from Abu Syed Site and different saw mills of the district. In a surprise raid on

December 29, a team led by Golam Habib, the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) o Chittagong Hill Tracts recov ered about 3000.0 cubic feet of valuable timber worth about Taka 15 lakhs

Meanwhile, the officials of Kaptai Pulp Wood Plantation Division have also scized about 3,500.0 cft of timbers of valuable species worth about Taka 16 lakh from the different parts of the division, DFO Huruzzaman said.

He said, the timbers extracted illegally earlier were stocked in many saw mills at Razasthali, Bangalhalia, Raikhali and Narayangiri.

KUSHTIA

Muktijoddha Sangsad unit dissolved

4 : The Central Command Council of Muktfjoddha Sungsad has dissolved the district unit committee for alleged malpractices by the Unit Commander, reports

A seven-member adhoc committee has been formed with Nasimuddin Ahmed as its convenor. The other members of the committee are Mizanur Rahman Khan (Bablu). Ashrafuddin, Nowsher Ali. Igbal Masud, Abdullahci Baki and Anarul.

It was alleged that the former Unit Commander Shahtdul islam indulged malpractices including misappropriation of fund and anomalies

in the organisation. The Council directed the former commander to hand over all official documents and

assets to the adhor committee. According to the constitu-

tion of the council, a fullfledged committee will be elected within two months. numy trees.

NETRAKONA

Procurement of aman paddy hampered

Jan 4: Aman procurement drive is being hampered in the ten upazilas of the district due to unresolved dispute over the crushing rate and transportation cost which the mill owners have demanded to be raised, reports UNB.

Procurement is also reported to be very low because of an insignificant gap between the government purchase price and that in the local market.

Paddy is being sold in the local market between Taka 240 and 250 per maund whereas the government price was fixed at Taka 245 per maund.

District Food Controller M A Malek told UNB that the Netrakona Food Department had a target of procuring 6,000 metric tons of aman paddy for which it has been operating 20 purchasing centres in the ten upazilas.

About 1,000 metric tons of aman paddy have been procured since November 15 last

FENI

Smuggled goods recovered

Jan 4: Bangladesh Rifles have seized a huge quantity of smuggled goods worth about Taka 1 lakh from a train at Feni Railway Station, reports UNB.

According to BDR sources, acting on a secret information. they rushed to the spot, raided the train and seized the contraband goods on December

included 233 pieces of sarces. 85 bottles of gripe water, 145 bottles of phencydyle, 29 bottles of phenargon syrup and 39 buttles of BG phos.

The seized smuggled goods

BDR personnel handed over the seized goods to Customs Authorities.

A case was registered but no one has so far been ar-

TANGAIL

Discussion on democratic movement

Jan 4: Jatyotabadi Chhatra Dal, Tangail District Branch held a discussion meeting on the "Thirteen years of democratic movement from 1979 to 1992" recently at local Shahid Minar premises, re-

Mr. Abdus Salam Pintu MI' among others spoke on the occasion. Md Hamidul Haque Mohan presided over the function.

MANIKGANJ

Drama festival

Jan 4: A two-day drama festival organised by Ichhamati Natya Dal, a local theater organisation, was held recently at Jhitka AM Iligh School premises under Hartrampur upazila, reports BSS.

A discussion was held on the occasion. The function was presided over by Mr Ranjan Saha, President of Ichhamati Natya Dal. The discussion was addressed among others by former Chairman, Hartrampur upazila Mr Talib Hossain, Freedom Fighter Mr Rafiqui Islam Mukul, Principal Schmuzzaman Khan, Masudur Rahman Bhutyan, Mr Monowar Hossain Bhasan and Mir Lutfar Rahman Nasir.

The speakers said that cultural activists and social workers of the rural areas can play a significant role in socio-eultural development of the coun-

SIRAJGANJ

3 more bodies recovered from capsized boat

Jan 4 : Police recovered three more bodies on Wednesday morning following Thursday night's boat capsize in the Jamuna near Char Sainna of Kaztpur upazila with 17 people on board, reports

The recovered bodies were identified as Al. Amin (13), son of Tozam Ali, Rina Khatun (7). daughter of Tokman Alt and Solaiman Sheikh (25), son of Taru Sheikh of the village Juktighucha/

Fourteen passengers drowned after the boat overturned midstream in a cyclonic storm. Three survived. Ten bodies were earlier re-

covered. Azibor (40), son of Forezuddin Sarker of Juktighacha, is still missing. The storm damaged about

1,000 thatched houses and standing crops and uprooted



CHILD LABOURERS: Poverty forces them to work. The merciless employers engage them in hard and odd jobs at a minimum payment.

Star photo

Child labourers in hard, odd jobs

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, Jan 4: The number of child labourers is increasing in different areas of the district.

The poor children who are expected in their teens to schools and in the playground have been compelled to engage themselves in different works for earning livelihood.

The children in the age limit of 5 to 15 years are engaged in manual jobs on daily

This class of children are found working as helping hands in motor, bi-cycle and rickshaw garages, welding shops and as boys in hotels and restaurants. Some of the children are also work as hawkers of newspapers and other commodities. Many of them are plying rickshaws.

The child labourers get a nominal wage from their masters and there is no guarantee of their tobs. The children who are working as scrvants are often tortured by the house

It is gathered that the child labourers work for more than 10 hours a day and carning be tween Taka 15 and 20 to support their families. These child

PABNA, Jan 4: Six people of

the district allegedly commit-

ted suicide by taking poison

and hanging and two others

were killed in road accidents

during the last week, police

Those who committed sui-

cide were: Shaleha Khatoon

(35), wife of Raichuddin of

Ataikula village, Anisur

Rahman(18), son of Asadur

Rahman of Jalalpur village

Shobeda Khatoon (25), daugh-

ter of Jonab Alt of Mojidpur vil-

lage, Rahima Khatoon (38),

wife of Sultan Bari of Madipur

village, Md Straj (25), son of

Abdul Barck of Kumargari vil-

lage and Shetu (18), daughter

of Manna Sarder of Dasurta vil-

due to family trouble.

Abdul Hakim(25).

They all committed suicide

Two others who were killed

Eight UD cases were regis-

in road accidents at Maligasa

area were Akter Alt (28) and

tered in different police sta-

tion in this connection.

said, reports UNB.

labourers are deprived of proper diet and medical facilities and have been suffering from various diseases. Some children are found moving from door to door to beg foods for survival. These tender faces speak of

their uncertainty of life and living. They can not realise their social value as they never knew how to read and write. It is observed that privi-

leged people of the society were taking advantages of the poverty of these class of children and they are being ex-According to International Labour Laws, the children be-

low the age group of 15 are not

allowed to take up hard work.

But in our country, the law is not being enforced. The concerned authorities have been urged to take initiatives to rehabilitate the child labourers through opening institutions and thus help them enjoy the minimum rights for the greater interest of the na-

A ten-day-long cyc camp was inaugurated here by Mr. Shahidul Alam, Director General NGC's at Satani High Schools prentises.

Seven commit suicide, 2

killed in road mishaps

Kamrun Nahar Shetu (18),

daughter of Abdul Mannan of

village Deshurta in Ishurdi

Upazila of the district allegedly

committed suicide by taking

in the last diSC examination

but she did not come out suc-

cessful. At this she became

frustrated and reportedly took

poison to committ suicide. She

was rushed to the Sudar hospi-

Her body was sent to Pabna

A unnatural death case has

Another message from

A 10-member Executive

been registered with the

Chuadanga adds: The election

of local Bar Council was held

Committee was elected with

Advocate Golam Rahman as its

President and Advocate

Salimuddin Khan as Secretary

1,867 metric tons of wheat

under Food for Works

Government has sanctioned

Police said. Shetu appeared

poison on Tuesday night.

tal where she died.

Ishurdt police.

here on Tuesday,

morgue for postmortem.

Hundreds of patients from all the upazilas of the district came to the eye camp for treatment. A total of 206 patients was operated upon and 2613 were provided treat-

The eye camp was arranged under the auspices of BNSB Khulna and it was led y Dr. Fakir Ahmed with the help of Syed Shahid Ali, Secretary, Export Promotion Bureau,

More than 200 spectacles were distributed among the operated patients free of cost. The crop cutting ceremony of an experimental farm here

was inaugurated by Mr. Imam

Hossain Khan, Director BWDB recently. Mr. Abul Hossain, Deputy Agriculture Director. Extension Department and Mr. Abdul Motalib, President, local

Press Club were present on

the occasion.

About 50 naunds of paddy have been produced in per acre of land. The farmers. Wazed Ali and Golam Mustala produced the said amount and it is reported to be the highest per acre production in the district.

Programme for 42 road repair-

expenditure of Taka one crore

and implemented in nine

upazilas of the district during

Of the total sanctioned, 332

metric tons was allotted for 7

projects of Sadar, 138 for 3

projects of Alghoria, 187 for 4

projects of Iswardi Upazila,

262 for 3 projects of

Chatmohar Upaztla, 30 for one

project of Vangoora, 125 for 3

projects of Faridpur, 293 for 6

projects in Santia, 247 for 6

projects in Bera and 249 for 6

projects of Sujanagar upazilas,

recruited mostly under the

programme, the source added.

Boro cultivation

land in nine upazilas of the

district will be brought under

boro cultivation programme in

A total of 1,10,760 acres of

Destitute women would be

official sources added.

the current season.

The projects will incur an

ing projects in the district.

the current fiscal year.

Notes from Faridpur

From Our Correspondent

Ananda Mela was held at the historic Ambika Maidan organised by "Shahid Sufi Samaj Kallyan Sangstha" recently.

Advocate Mosharraf Hossain MP, inaugurated the fair as the chief guest. Speaking on the occasion, he called for practising democratic norms in our personal, social and national life and upholding the spirit of the Liberation War.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia for her declaration to form a new administrative division at Barisal and requested her to form another administrative division in greater Faridpur District as demanded by the people.

of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society District Unit was held at Faridpur recently.

The meeting was presided over by Acting Chairman of the district unit Md Kamruzzaman Jasu. The meeting was also attended by a good number of members of the unit.

unit Kazi Anwar Ali said, the organisation distributed relici goods among the flood affected and distressed people in the

tons of wheat, 8 metric tons of flour, 1450 kgs of pulse and other necessary materials including medicines.

Loan scheme

to the poor persons recently.

of this district who secured highest marks in the last HSC examination were also awarded Taka 2500 cach.

The function was presided over by social worker of the locality Al-haj Ferozer Rahman. Md Abdur Kahim, DC and Abdus Sattar, SP, Faridpur attended the function.

Shilpakala Academy

of Faridpur Shilpakala Academy was held at its auditorium recently.

over by Deputy Commissioner of Faridpur and the ex-officio president of the academy Mr Abdur Rahim. Shetkh Abdur Samad, general secretary of the academy submitted his an nual report about the activities of the academy.

Breast feeding can prevent blindness

A recent survey showed that about 200 infants have already lost their eye-sight over the last few months, which could be prevented by regular breast feeding.

The report also said that infant mortality rate were rising in the district as mothers showed reluctance to feed from the breast.

About 35 per cent of the tosurvey further said.

Production in sugar mill likely to fall

RANGPUR, Jan 4: Sugar production in Shyampur Sugar Mills may face setback as sugarcane growers are reluctant to supply sugarcane as they are not getting fair price of their produce, reports UNB.

According to growers the mill authorities failed to repay outstanding amount of Taka 1.66 crore to them. The growers also staged demonstration recently in front of the General Manager's Office demanding repayment of their arrears.

The mill is running 12 hours a day instead of 24 hours during the present crushing season from November 22 due to shortage of sugarcane, Mill sources said.

of sugar worth about Taka 2.48 crore of last year are lying unsold at the Mills godown. As a result the mill is facing an acute fund crisis.

At least 5,200 metric tons

The mill has fixed the target of sugar production at 12,000 metric tons by crushing 1.42 lakh metric tons of sugarcane during the present crushing season.

Works on 25 development projects are going on in the full swing under the Food for Work Programme in Sadar upazila of the district during

the current fiscal year. Official sources said, under the supervision of CARE, a non-government organisation, the Overseas Development Authority (ODA) has sanctioned 665 metric tons of wheat for executing the projects.

The projects include construction of embankment, reexcavation of ponds, canals and beels and development of hats and bazars and play grounds of educational institutions.

General meeting of Greater Rangpur Welfare Association which was scheduled to be held on December 20 (Friday) will now be held on February 7, 1992.

A press release of th Association says, interested persons may send their articles for the souvenir to be published on the occasion, on or before January 20.

10,000 drug addicts in dist

Availability of drugs aggravating situation

NETRAKONA, Jan 4: The number of drug addicts is growing in the district causing concern to the town dwellers. reports UNB.

More than 10,000 people have been addicted to drugs like ganja and others, according to an estimate done by a social worker.

Most of the addicts belong to age groups between 13 to 40 years. And the majority of them are transport workers, small shopkeepers, business men, female students, gov ernment employees and officials, restaurant owners and college students. Easy availability of drugs has

aggravated the situation in the district. Drugs are available in almost all the pharmacies in the town and even in rural markets, where being sold with impunity, the sources addcd.

political leaders urged the authorities to take necessary measures to check illegal sale of drugs and take proper action against anti-social elements immediately.

Authority, in a operation, dis-

Besides, the Authority have also cut-off power lines between Netrakona-Durgapur and Netrakona-Purbadhalla for the same reason.

About Taka 48 lakh is now lying outstanding in Durgapur and Purbadhalla upazilas. Sources said, the operation for collection of outstanding

bills would continue. A total of 176,536 hectares of land will be brought under sweet potato cultivation in 14 districts of Dhaka Division during the current rabi season. Extension Department, 880 hectares will be cultivated in Narayariganj 1,500 hectares in Narsingdi, 182 hectares II Munshigani, 2,025 hectares in

Local guardians, clite and

The District Electric Supply connected 250 power lines of domestic and business corners of the district during the last few days due to non-payment of arrear bills.

According to the Agricultural

Tangail 2,000 hectares Mymensingh, 3,650 hectares in Jamalpur, 1,200 hectares in Sherpur, 243 hectares Netrokona, 3,060 hectares Kishoreganj, 100 hectares Rajbari . 150 hectares fr Faridpur, 400 hectares in Gopalgani, 146 hectares Madaripur and 1,000 hectares in Shariatpur districts.

To make the programme Bangladesh success, Development Agricultural Corporation will supply seeds fertilizers, insecticides and other inputs among the farmers at fair prices.

These cyclone shelters will

The annual rally and ath-

be used as primary schools in

normal times, the sources said,

letic competition of district

police were held at police lim

Spread of skin diseases alarming

BORGUNA, Jan 4: Stomach ailments and skin diseases have been spreading alarmingly in the district causing concern among the people, reports UNB.

Doctors said, a large num-

ber of patients are pouring into the hospitals everyday with gastro-intestinal and otherskin diseases. Scarcity of pure water and consumption of adulterated foods and edible oils are learnt

the outbreak of the diseases. Adulterated foodstuff including edible oils, milk and ghee are being sold unabatedly in open markets, consumers complained.

to be the main reasons belind

Local people urged the government to take measures against the sale of adulterated foodstuff. Red Crescent Society has

undertaken a programmic to

construct six cyclone shelters

in the coastal areas of the district during this financial year. More than 7000 people will get emergency shelters during the time of cyclone and tidal

Deputy Inspector General of Police, Khulna Range, Shahidul Haque attended the rally as the chief guest while Fazlul Haque Police Super of the district presided over the function

held recently. The chie! guest in his speech called upon the members of the police service to perform their duties with utmost sincerity, devotion and impartiality.

Later he distributed prizes among the winners.

The Annual General Meeting of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) concluded in Dhaka Monday with the passage of the budge for the year 1992,

Tk 8cr sanitation plan for Habiganj

HABIGANJ, Jan 4: A Taka 8 crore project has been taken up for development of dramage and sanitation systems and rehabilitation of the shelterless people of the district

Pourashava, reports UNB. According to official source, the Asian Development Bank will finance the project.

The project will also include, construction of pucca drains, public toilet and dustbin for the improvement of the sanitation in the area. Pourashava sources said the

primary survey of the project was completed recently and the work will start soon. Migratory birds are being killed indiscriminately by amatuer and professional bird-

According to informed sources, different kinds of birds locally known as Balihush, Parihush, Pankouri, Sarails, Dahuk have flocked here in different water bodies of Baniachong, Azmirigani, Nabiganj, Lakhai and Sadar Police seized a huge num-

government ban

worth about Taka 2.30 lakh from a house of Fadullah Village of Nabiganj Upazila ol the district. Acting on a secret information, police raided the house of Abdul Hye of the said village

ber of smuggled Indian bid

and scized the contraband goods last week. A case was registered in

this connection. shooters in the district defying

र्भावना

SHIBALAYA: The artistes of jatra parties recently brought out a procession here demanding the withdrawal of restrictions to the exhibition jatra. -Star photo

FARIDPUR, Jan 4: A 3-day

Awami League leader

The AL leader congratulated

BRCS meet held

The annual general meeting

Secretary of the district

The goods included 12 metric tons of rice, 22 metric

"Songjog Faridpur", a service oriented social welfare organisation of the ex-students of Faridpur Zilia School and Faridpur Rajendra College, under a interest-free loan scheme distributed rickshaws

Three meritorious students

The annual general meeting

The meeting was presided

BORGUNA, Jan 1 Hundreds of babies in the district are suffering from blindness caused by vitamin A deficiency, reports UNB

tal children have been suffering from night blindness, malnutrition, skin and other gastro-intestinal diseases, the