

District roundup

COMILLA

Two houses gutted in fire

Dec 4: A devastating fire completely gutted two houses on Thursday night destroying property worth about Taka 2 lakh, reports UNB.

According to witnesses, a cow-shed caught fire from a carelessly handled open lamp (kupi) and soon engulfed the dwelling houses of Abdul Halim Master. One bullock was roasted alive and another was seriously injured.

As the fire raged, some miscreants looted cash of Taka 16,000 and some ornaments from an adjacent house.

Local people after frantic efforts brought the fire under control.

SIRAJGANJ

Youths assault physician for negligency

From Our Correspondent

Dec 4: A medical officer of Belkuchi thana health complex was physically assaulted by some youths in the complex area recently.

It is informed that one Maimuna Khatun (50), wife of Abdul Jalil of village Shernagar Bilpara faced heart attack. Relatives of the ailing woman rushed to Belkuchi hospital and requested Dr Mozammel Hoque to attend the patient. Relatives alleged that the doctor delayed to attend the patient. Meanwhile, the patient died and agitated youths numbering about 10 assaulted the doctor physically. The doctor however denied the issue of his delay.

MYMENSINGH

Seminar on Livestock concludes

Dec 4: A seminar on 'Livestock extension and research linkage' was held recently at the 'Microbiology gallery of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU), reports BSS.

The seminar was presided over by Prof M Mozammel Haque, Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Science. The keynote paper was presented by Dr M Hafezur Rahman of the Department of Parasitology.

Among others Prof M Monsurul Amin, Prof M H Mondol, Dr Z Karim and A B M Mofizul Islam took part in the discussion.

KUSHIA

Four held with arms, ammunition

Dec 4: Police arrested four persons and recovered one pistol, one home-made gun and some ammunition on Friday from a house in Chaitan village under Mirpur police station, reports BSS.

On secret information, police raided the house and recovered the unauthorised items. They also recovered bomb and pipegun making materials.

The arrested persons also attacked the police and injured one sub-inspector of police.

A case has been registered with in this connection.

GAIBANDHA

One suspended for misappropriation of fund

From Our Correspondent

Dec 4: Shah Md Habibur Rahman, District Accounts Officer, Gaibandha has been put under suspension on charge of involvement in misappropriation of Taka 20 lakh recently.

According to report in 1984, Habibur Rahman was posted as Accounts Officer at Rangpur. During the period, he allegedly involved in a misappropriation preparing fake bills of Cotton Development Board. On detecting the incident, the authority suspended ten employees on charge of involvement in misappropriation. But Habibur got rid of the charge of misappropriation with the help of some unknown influence.

After conducting thorough investigation over the matter, Habibur found involved with the incident.

The authority however put him under suspension.

CHUADANGA

Rabi crop farming plan taken up

From Our Correspondent

Dec 4: A massive rabi crop cultivation programme has been taking up in four thanas of the district during the current season.

The four thanas are: Chuadanga Sadar, Alamdanga, Damurhuda and Jibannagar. During the current season, a total of 63,000 hectares of land will be brought under rabi cultivation in the district of which boro on 16,000 hectares, wheat on 18,000 hectares, mustard on 35,000 hectares, potato on 800 hectares, vegetables on 3,000 hectares, mug on 350 hectares, mashkail on 2000 hectares, masur on 14,500 hectares, 3,000 hectares under gram and 2000 hectares on khesari.

A total of 1,27,000 metric tons of rabi crops including vegetables and mustard will be produced in the district this year, it is expected.

BRAHMANBARIA

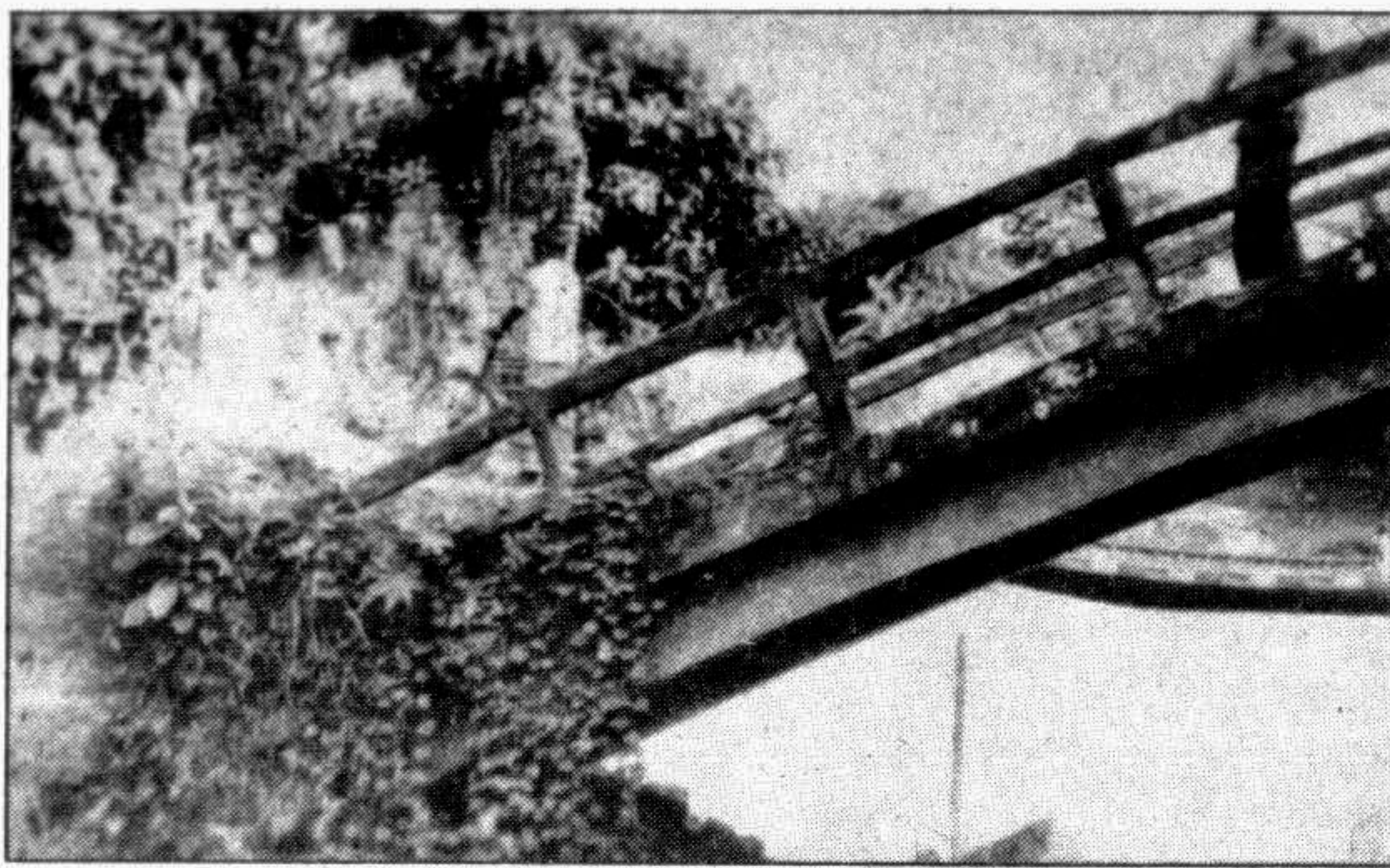
Teacher killed in road mishap

From Our Correspondent

Dec 4: A teacher of Bariora Madrasah Moulana Fariduddin (25) of village Bhatpara under Sadar thana was killed in a road accident at Dhaka-Sylhet diversion road of the district recently.

Eye witnesses said, the victim while returning from his father-in-law's house on village Chandiana was hit by a Madapur board local bus.

A case was filed in the Sadar thana. The body was sent to the Sadar hospital for autopsy.



MANIKGANJ: The bridge on Balirtek-Harirampur Road of the district has not yet been reconstructed after four years of collapse. — Star photo

Two lakh people suffer from waterlogging

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE: Dec 4: Two lakh people of 55 villages under four thanas of three districts in southern zone suffer from waterlogging for the last six years.

It is learnt that Monirampur and Keshabpur thanas of Jessore, Dumuria thana of Khulna and Tala thana of Satkhira districts went under water first in 1985 causing extensive damage human lives, animals, homesteads and standing crops.

Water Development Board, shortly after the damage, appointed a team to survey and suggest the measures to avoid waterlogging in these areas.

The team in its report suggested reexcavation of the connecting canals of the rivers Harihar Srinadi, Buribhadra and Vadra with Kapadak at Trimohtini in Keshabpur and Tala.

The following year, the flood again caused extensive damages in those areas.

The government requested

the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to conduct a survey and submit a report suggesting measures to halt the waterlogging.

Later, the government took up a scheme worth Taka 63 crore in 1983 with the assurance if support from the fund-

Road accident leaves ration dealer dead

TANGAIL: Dec 4: One Baki Miah (60), a ration dealer of Bisnabetka was killed in a road accident on Saturday on Dhaka-Tangail Highway here, reports BSS.

Eye witnesses said he was run over by a rush driven coach.

At case was registered with Tangail thana in this connection.

50-bed Satkhira sadar hospital beset with problems

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, Dec 1: Shortage of doctors, medicines, beds and equipment has been hampering proper treatment at the Satkhira Modernised Hospital for a long period.

The 50-bed hospital can not cope with the rising number of patients due to inadequate number of beds. The existing beds can meet only 20 per cent requirement of the patients seeking admission.

Most cots and bed sheets have become worn-out and are rarely replaced by new ones, it is alleged. A large number of patients both male and female who come from remote areas of the district return without proper treatment for want of accommodation and medicines.

There is an ambulance in the hospital but it remains out of order for a long time. As a result, the serious patients can not be shifted to Khulna or Dhaka due lack of ambulance. Sometimes in emergency cases, the people can use the ambulance belonging to Debhata Thana Health Complex or other private clinics on payment of Taka 3500 to Taka 4000, it is learnt.

The only X-Ray machine in the hospital remains out of order most of the time. More

over, due to shortage of films, the patients are advised to have X-Ray from private management. The water supply is so irregular that most of the time the patients and staff of the hospital are to drink hand tubewell water. The drains, hospital floor and other necessary things of the hospital are not kept clean for which bad odour evicts always. Most latrines and urinals are hardly

cleaned. There is separate ward for patients suffering from infectious disease.

The government office timing is not maintained in the hospital and no doctors are allegedly available after 1-30 pm.

The visitors and outsiders enter into the hospital every now and then for which the patients feel disturbed. The cows, goats, dogs and cats are seen moving inside the hospital compound.

When contacted some doctors of the hospital informed this correspondent that there is no sufficient medicines in the hospital. Both the indoor and out door patients are provided with only prescription.

The poor indoor patients have been suffering much as they are to purchase medicines from outside. Even the patients of operation cases are to buy requisite materials from outside.

There is no blood bank in the hospital and the patients are to arranged blood from outside and bring them from Khulna. The diet supplied to the patients is also said to be not up to the standard.

The concerned authorities have been urged to ensure requirement to the patients.



NATORE: The shedless morgue of the sadar hospital. The doctors of the hospital have been facing very much difficulties to conduct autopsy. — Star photo

Notes from Kishoreganj

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, Dec 4: About 2,000 students of Tara Kandi Senior Madrasah in Pakundia thana of the district brought out a procession in protest against alleged corruption of some teachers and press home their demands of November 2.

The students later went to the office of Thana Nirbahi Officer and handed over a memorandum to him.

Housewife commits suicide

Sochi Rani Biswas, (25), wife of Kartik Chandra Biswas of village Ramsangkarup under Bhatrab thana allegedly committed suicide by taking poison recently at her residence.

She was sent to Hospital where she was declared dead. Family feud is the cause of her suicide, it is learnt from her family sources.

An unnatural death case was lodged with Bhatrab Police Station in this connection. The body was sent to Kishoreganj sadar hospital for autopsy.

BTC employee robbed

Md. Zakaria Chowdhury, an employee of Bangladesh Tobacco Company was robbed of Taka 12,000 by a miscreant at Burburia Bandh near village Chikntar under Kishoreganj sadar thana recently.

The miscreants snatched away his briefcase containing Taka 12,000 and clothes. He was admitted in Kishoreganj Sadar Hospital.

A case has been registered with the Kishoreganj thana police in this connection. Nobody has been arrested so far, it is learnt.

Prize giving ceremony held

The prize giving ceremony of the competition organised by Kishoreganj Central Rotary Club in observance of youth activities month was held at the district Public Library Hall recently.

K. Raghunath, Indian High Commissioner in Bangladesh attended the ceremony as chief guest.

Presided over by Rtn Dr. Muhiuddin Ahmed, the function was addressed among others by Rtn Khandaker Mahbul Alam, Rtn Principal Jalal Ahmed, Rtn Md. Sayeduzzaman, Rtn A K M Siddique and Rtn Md. Rafiqul Islam.

Later the chief guest distributed prizes among the winners of different items of the competition.

Discussion held on rat killing

A discussion on rat killing drive '92 organised by Pakundia Thana Agriculture Extension Office at Syedgaon Government Primary School was held recently.

Presided over by Syed Sanowar Hossain, the function was attended by Abdul Motaleb, Deputy Director in-charge of Agriculture Extension, Kishoreganj as chief guest.

Among others Abdul Mannaf, Thana Agriculture Officer, Pakundia, Niranjana Chandra Das, SMO, Kajal Chandra Pandit and Md. Ishamuddin took part in the discussion.

A total of 431 farmers were imparted training in Pakundia thana during the current season.

Dacoits loot Tk 50,000 from bus passengers

COMILLA, Dec 4: Valuables worth about Taka 50,000 were looted on Thursday in a bus dacoity at Gumta on Dhaka-Chittagong Highway in Chandina, reports UNB.

A passenger bus (Chittagong Ja-2226) bound for Comilla was stopped at about 5 kilometre west of Chandina thana by a gang of armed dacoits who were in the bus in the guise of passengers.

The dacoits then collected cash and valuables from the passengers at gun point fled with the bus-conductor accompanying them.

The bus driver then drove the vehicle upto Chandina bazar and jumped off while the passengers caught hold of the helper, suspecting his complicity in the hold-up.

64 smuggled cows recovered

SATKHIRA, Dec 4: Bangladesh Rifles recovered 64 smuggled cows worth about Taka 1.50 lakh from Kasabpur Bazar on Sunday morning in the district, reports UNB.

Acting on secret information, BDR jawans raided the bazar and seized the Indian cows. These cows were handed over to the customs authority.

A case has been filed with the local police.

357 posts of local body vacant in Khagrachhari

From Our Correspondent

KHAGRACHHARI, Dec 4: About 357 posts in the Local Government Council of Khagrachhari hill district are lying vacant for a long time hampering development activities of the district, Samiran Dewan, the Chairman of the Council said.

Important posts in health, livestock, agriculture extension, family planning are lying vacant and as a result the official and field works are being hampered seriously, he added.

Forty-three out of 85 posts of doctors in Health Department are lying vacant depriving the hilly people from medical facilities. Dr. Abdur Rahman, the Civil Surgeon of the district told adding that it

has become very much difficult to ensure medicare services to the people living in inaccessible areas of the district.

According to information received from the reliable quarters, the post vacant in Health Department are 136, family planning — 57, fisheries — 10, livestock — 28, forest — 6, primary education — 11, agriculture extension — 74, social welfare — 15, co-operative — 12, cottage industries — 1 and public health department — 7 posts.

The sufferers demanded to fill up the vacant posts immediately for the better development of Khagrachhari hill district and smooth functioning of the offices.

Eight get life-term for murder in B'baria, Sylhet

From Our Correspondent

BRAHMANBARIA, Dec 4: District Sessions Judge, Begum Nazmun Ara Sultana sentenced 5 persons to suffer life-term and fined Taka two thousand in default to suffer one year more in a Direndra Chandra Das murder case in Nabinagar thana of the district.

The convicted are: Asid Miah, Rup Miah, Abdul Mutalib, Shahadat and Giasuddin (absconding) while other accused of the case Anwara Begum, Farid Miah, and Mahabul acquitted.

The prosecution story in brief is that Direndra Chandra Das of village Naroi under Nabinagar thana was summoned by a messenger from his house on June 8, 1991. But he did not return to his house at that night. Next day, his body was found in a field. In this connection, a case was filed with the Nabinagar thana.

Later, police submitted the charge sheet.

The prosecution case was conducted by PP Shafiqul Islam while defence was pleaded by Advocate Strajul Hoque and Advocate Ali Azzam.

Our Sylhet Correspondent

adds: The Additional District and Sessions Judge, third court, Sylhet sentenced three persons to suffer life-term imprisonment on charge of murdering one person in Beanbazar thana recently.

They were also fined of Taka five thousand each in default to suffer imprisonment for six months more. The court also acquitted four other persons of the charges brought against them in the same case.

The prosecution case in brief is that at about 12-15 in the night following the August 1, 1988 one Asafuddin was killed in the Kargam road of Beanbazar thana. A case was registered with the police station immediately after the incident by the brother of the victim.

The court after examining all the records and witnesses, found Bahauddin, Misbahuddin (absconding) and Taru (absconding) guilty and sentenced them to suffer life-term imprisonment and fined as stated above. The court also acquitted the four other accused namely, Abdul Jalil (absconding), Nasir, Baharuddin and Tajof Peer.



MADARIPUR: Rahim Smriti Sangha has recently opened an institution to learn the Quran. — Star photo

Diarrhoea claims 33 in Rajbari areas

RAJBARI, Dec 1: Diarrhoea claimed 33 lives at four thanas in the district during last 2 months, official sources said, reports UNB.

Health Department sources said eight of them died at Rajbari, 15 at Pangsha, 6 at Balakhandi and 4 at Goalando thanas.

At least 2500 persons attacked by the disease were given medical attention.

Civil Surgeon of the district said it was possible to control the situation with the active cooperation of the health workers.

A total of 81 students has been awarded stipends from Golem Mohammad Chowdhury Welfare Trust during current year.

Each of the students will get Tk 13,000 and free tuition at the school and madrasa.

Ganja worth Tk one lakh seized

GAIBANDHA, Dec 4: A vigilance team of the Customs and Excise Department recovered ganja worth about Taka one lakh from the house of one former union parishad member at village Sreerampur under Sadullapur thana of Gaibandha district recently, reports BSS.

Another report adds: Lutfor Rahman Khan, State Minister for Relief has said that mothers' education is essential for the education of children.

The nation will not be able to stand on its feet if the womanfolk long behind, he added.

Among others Abdus Salam Pintu MP, Mrs Anwara Habib MP, Nurul Islam, Prof Fazlul Haque, Miss Samana Pervin Shima GS and Umme Salma Bimu VP of the college spoke on the occasion.

Another report adds: Four canals will be dug in Mirzapur thana under voluntary canal digging programme in the month of December.

The canals are in Verra, Agana and Anataru unions.

Official sources said under this programme nine kilometre long canals will be dug. After the implementation of the project waterlogging in 4,100 acres will be overcome

and an additional 7,200 metric tons of paddy will be produced annually.

Another reports says: Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, Tangail unit recently distributed relief goods including rice and cloths among the poor people here.

An official source said the relief goods included 25 bags of rice, four bags of salt, 200 sarees and 150 lungees.