

## District roundup

## KUSHTIA

## Eye camp opens

Dec 28: A ten-day long eye camp was opened by Abdur Rouf Chowdhury, Member of Parliament at Amla High School on December 17, reports BSS.

Rotary Club of Dhaka north organised the eye camp. One hundred and four cataract patients were operated upon. Khairuzaman represented Rotary Club of Dhaka north. All the expenditure of the eye camp will be borne by the club.

## RAJSHAHI

## RUTA condemns demolition of tombstone

Dec 28: Rajshahi University Teachers' Association in an emergency meeting on Saturday condemned the demolition of the tombstone of massgrave on the campus, reports UNB.

Presided over by RUTA President Shamsur Rahman, the meeting demanded punishment to the persons responsible for the demolition.

RUTA also condemned some newspapers for publishing false and fabricated reports against some teachers implicating them with the incident. They also urged them not to publish such provocative news in future for the sake of impartial enquiry into the incident.

Mentionable that Rajshahi University formed a five-member probe committee in an emergency meeting on Dec 19 with Pro-vice Chancellor M. Azharuddin in the chair to investigate into the demolition of the tombstone.

## HABIGANJ

## One held in connection with murder

Dec 28: An accused was arrested in Baniachang Monday (December 21) in connection with murder of former Lakhai Upazila Chairman, reports UNB.

Acting on secret information, police arrested Ali. Almas Khan from Uttar Sangar village area.

Former Lakhai Upazila Chairman Abdus Samad Chowdhury Forhad was stabbed to death in front of Bongabazar mosque at Gulistan of Dhaka by a group of miscreants on July 1 while he was going to his elder brother's residence at Mirpur.

Motijheel police submitted charge sheet against 8 persons including Almas Khan on November 27 after investigation.

## FARIDPUR

## Kabi Jasimuddin's birth anniversary observed

Dec 28: The birth anniversary of Pali Kabi Jasimuddin will be observed here on January 1, 1993 in a befitting manner, reports BSS.

An elaborate programme has been chalked out by an organising committee formed here in cooperation with the district administration. Besides, organising committee a number of sub-committees have also been formed to observe the birth anniversary of the poet.

The week-long programme will be held at village Gobindapur in the suburb of the town.

The programme includes holding of village fair, competitions of folk songs, lathi khela, circus, handicrafts exhibition of BSCIC and other cultural functions.

The poet was born in his maternal grand father's house at village Tambulkhana near Gobindapur in 1903.

A sub-committee headed by Ali Akbar Chowdhury, ADC (Gen) of Faridpur has been taking all out preparations at Gobindapur for the week-long functions.

## SIRAJGANJ

## Chhatra Dal sweeps college union polls

Dec 28: Jattiyabadi Chhatra Dal, student wing of the ruling BNP, swept the Belkuchi Government College students' union election held Thursday, bagging all the 16 seats including VP and GS, reports UNB.

Humayun Islam was elected Vice President and Sohail Rana Liton General Secretary.

Voting was largely peaceful from 9 am to 3 pm and the result was announced today (Friday).

## BRAHMANBARIA

## Freshers' reception held

From Our Correspondent  
Dec 28: Freshers' reception of Salimgong college under Nabinagar thana of the district held here recently.

Chairman, Education Board of Comilla Professor A Aziz was present as chief guest while Deputy Commissioner Khabiruddin Ahmed, college Inspector Khuda Raha, and DIG, Chittagong Police Range Abdul Khalique attended the function as special guest.

The function was presided over by founder of the college and retired secretary Siddique Rahman.

Another report adds: A seven-day eye camp held here at the Shuhilpur Union Parishad community hall under Sadar thana recently.

Bangladesh Blind Foundation and Shuhilpur Union Parishad jointly organised the eye camp. About 497 patients were given ophthalmic treatment at the camp and forty cataract patients were operated upon.

On the concluding day Sadar Thana Nirbahi Officer Enamul Hoque and Union Parishad Chairman Humayan Kabir distributed spectacles and medicines among the patients.

## NARAIL

## One injured in hand bombs blast

Dec 28: One student sustained serious injuries in two hand bombs blast on Narail Victoria College campus on Tuesday, reports UNB.

The victim Milon was sent to Sadar hospital in a critical condition.

According to college sources, some students who have been agitating on the campus for the last few days to postpone the ensuing college students' union election are responsible for blasting the crackers.

Candidates from five panchs have already submitted nomination papers, while one student organisation abstained from participating in the election.

## SHERPUR

## Fish disease breaks out

Dec 28: Fish disease has broken out in five thanas of the district, according to a local fishery officer here, reports UNB.

The disease known as "Ulcerative Syndrome", affected different varieties of fish, he said.

Local fishermen said the demand for fish decreased abnormally in the local market as the news spread in the community.

Fishermen and owners of ponds, beels and haors urged the concerned authorities to take necessary steps to control the disease.

## COX'S BAZAR

## Miscreants kill one

From Our Correspondent  
Dec 28: One Mohammad Islam (65) has been killed by some unidentified persons at his home at Majbura village of Chowdhaldandi union of the Sadar thana recently.

The killing is suspected to be sequel to a previous enmity. A case has been filed with Cox's Bazar thana in this connection.

## KURIGRAM

## Islamic Jalsha ends

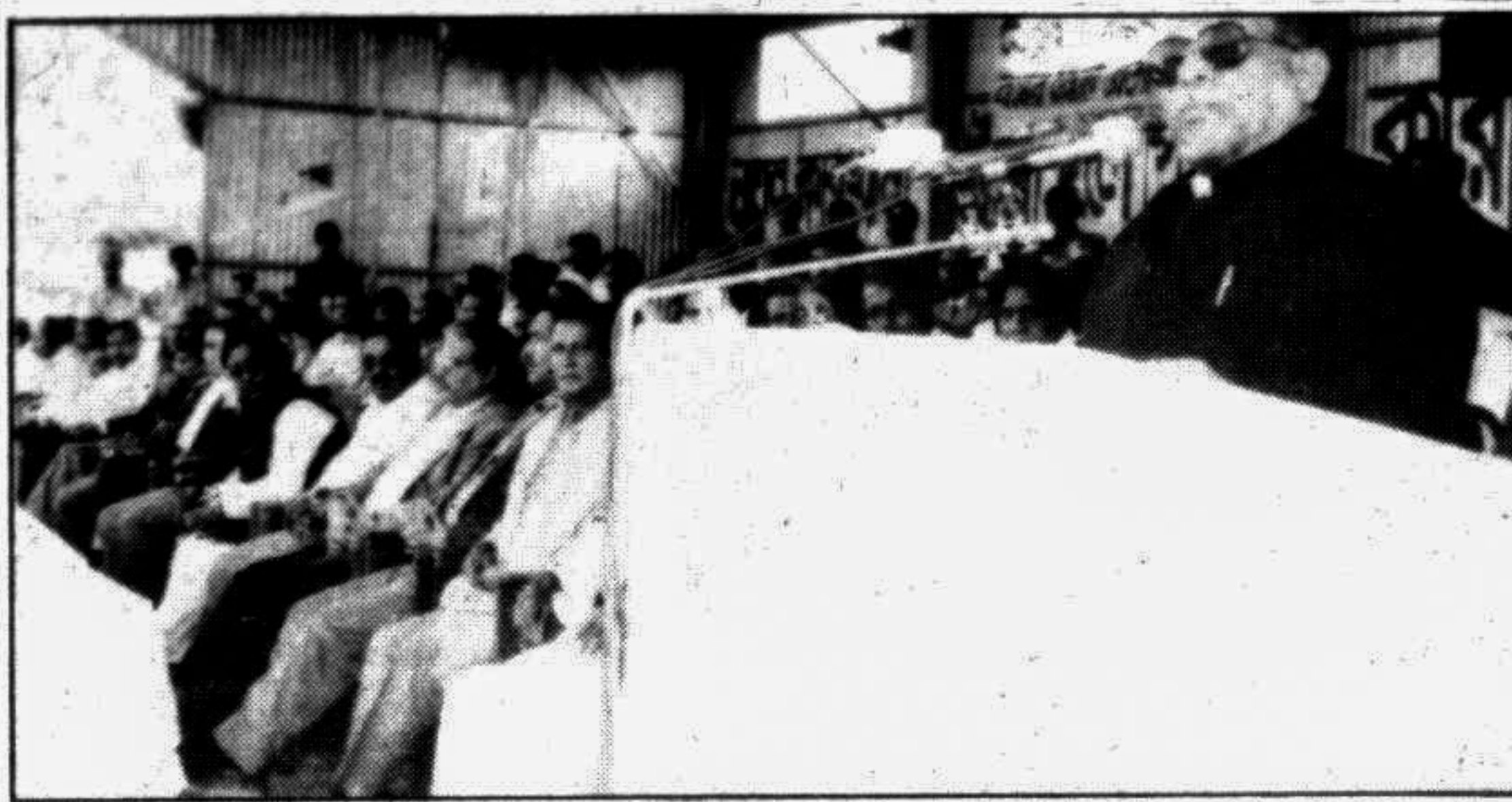
From Our Correspondent  
Dec 28: An Islamic Jalsha was held recently at the campus of Kurigram Ummal Huda Hafiza Madrasa with Moulana Mozammel Haque, Principal Kurigram Alia Madrasa in the chair.

Mir Md Habibur Rahman Juktibadi (Dhaka), was the chief speaker, while Moulana Md Mosharraf Hossain Siddiqui, and Moulana Abdul Ghani discussed various aspects of life and activities of Hazrat Mohammad (SM) and teachings of Islam.

Swapan Kumar Sarker, local CPB leader presided over the meeting while Saifuddin Manik, President, Communist Party of Bangladesh was present as the chief speaker.

The meeting was also addressed by Central leaders Amjad Hussain Sarker, Shahadat Hossain, local leaders Advocate Abraham Lincoln, Nurun Nabi Babu and Aminur Rahman Alan.

It was conducted by Mehdi Hasan Milon.



SYLHET: Deputy Leader of the opposition in the parliament Abdus Samad Azad addressing a public meeting held here recently in protest against the government decision for shutting down the Fenchuganj Natural Gas Fertilizer Factory. —Star photo

## Fake NGOs collect Tk 12cr from jobless, disappear

## From Our Correspondent

NETRAKONA, Dec 28: Eight Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) collected over Taka 12 crore in the name of employment from the jobless youngmen and women of all the 8 upazilas of the district and later disappeared recently.

Eight NGOs started their programmes in different parts of the district and all the organisations disappeared after realising the above mentioned amount from the jobless persons of the area. About 55,000 jobless youngmen and women have been cheated by the so-called NGOs.

The 8 NGOs who started work here have been identified as: Agro-Fisheries, Socio-Economic Development Organisation, People Economic Development Organisations, Bangladesh Gano Biddalaya Mission, Bangladesh Rural Development Organisation, Unemployed Rehabilitation Programme, Ahad Samij Unnayan Sangstha and SIDA.

These organisations set up branch offices at different locations of the district and published advertisement for recruitment of staff. The organisations realised security money from the intending candidates.

Agro-Fisheries started work with its office at local Muktrapara Road of the town and advertised for recruitment of staff at union, upazila and district level. This organisation recruited a large number of people and took security between Taka 3000 and 7000 from each candidate.

But after few months, the activities of the organisation found suspicious recently the district office of the organisation and demanded the security money back. The organisation arranged time for repayment of money and one day they were found missing.

One of the deprived job seekers informed this correspondent that he was appointed after depositing Taka 8,000 as security money. He further informed that he did not get any salary during the tenure of his six months service.

All such NGOs set up their branch offices for implementing different purposes like women rehabilitation, small poultry farm, project for destitute women, fish cultivation agri-rehabilitation and interest-free small trading loans.

The NGOs recruited large number of employees to cover the programmes from village level district level. Soon after the collection of the money, all the NGOs disappeared without notice. About 55,000 jobless youngmen and women were deprived by the so-called NGOs.

One Gramin Health Organisation set up their office at Station Road, Chackpara and collected Taka five per head in rural areas for free treatment. A reliable source disclosed that the officer collected Taka 20,000 in this way. Ultimately, they also disappeared from the scene.

Academy was present as chief guest. Deputy Director of Ansar and VDP central zone Abul Kashem, Police Super Md Harisuddin and District Adjutant of Ansar and VDP Md Rahmatullah were among others addressed the rally.

Members of Ansar and VDP of all eight thanas of the district attended the rally. Sewing machines, watches, radio and football were distributed among the best 70 members of Ansar and VDP.

Shilpakala Academy AGM held  
The annual general meeting of the district Shilpakala Academy was held with Additional Deputy Commissioner Ali Akbar in the chair.

Secretary of the academy Prof Sk Abdus Samad presented the annual report about the activities of the previous year. Treasurer Munshi Harun-Rashid placed the budget of fiscal 92-93 in the meeting held at its auditorium on December 18.

The meeting was also addressed by Prof M A Samad, Atiar Rahman, Principal Nasiruddin Ahmed Musa, Shamsul Alam and Mafiz Imam Shams.

The budget of Taka 2,62,814 was approved in the meeting.

## From Our Correspondent

Victory Day observed  
The 22nd Victory Day was observed in the district with due honour and a pledge to safeguard the hand earned independence.

Police, ansars and VDP, students of schools, colleges and other organisations took part in a march past held at the local stadium. Rifle-shooting competition was held.

A fancy football match was held at the police line ground. A cultural function arranged by Faridpur Shilpakala Academy was held at local Kabi Jasimuddin Hall.

Besides, several organisations chalked out separate programmes. Mukti Zoddha Sangsad arranged a discussion meeting. Faridpur Rotary Club organised a mini-marathon race competition which covered five kilometers. Rotary Club also distributed food packets among the inmates of orphanage and hospitals.

MANIKGANJ, Dec 28: Jattiyabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), the student wing of ruling BNP, swept the Singair Degree College Students union election, securing all the 19 posts on Friday, reports UNB.

Montril Islam and Nurul Amin were elected VP and GS respectively of the students' union for the year 1993, defeating their nearest rivals belonging to Awami League-backed Chhatra League (M-I).

Annual rally of ansars, VDP  
The annual rally of Ansar and VDP of the district was held at the local Kabi Jasimuddin hall.

Deputy Commissioner of Faridpur K M Nurul Huda presided over the rally held recently while Lt Col Harun-Rashid, Commandant of Ansar

Academy was present as chief guest. Deputy Director of Ansar and VDP central zone Abul Kashem, Police Super Md Harisuddin and District Adjutant of Ansar and VDP Md Rahmatullah were among others addressed the rally.

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NETRAKONA: Md Rezaul Karim, Deputy Director of Islamic Foundation speaking at a prize giving ceremony held at district foundation auditorium recently. —Star photo

## Notes from Madaripur

## From Our Correspondent

MADARIPUR, Dec 28: Indiscriminate felling of fruit bearing trees is going on in the district causing ecological imbalance.

Brick-field owners violating government ban are using the firewood to burn their bricks instead of coal.

The poverty-stricken people are compelled to sell their trees to earn their livelihood. Coconut, mango, palm and date trees are also being sold to the brickfield owners in a large number.

## Pipegun, hand bomb recovered

Police recovered a pipegun and a hand bomb from Khawajpur area under Sadar thana of the district recently.

Acting on a tip, police raided the area and recovered the said arms. In another raid, police arrested an alleged criminal and recovered three round of bullets from his possession from Chhilarchar under Sadar thana.

## School boy ran over by truck

A school boy was run over by a speeding truck in Rajoir thana recently.

Witnesses said, the victim, Rofiq (10), was hit by the speeding truck from behind near Samadder bridge while he was playing. He died on the spot. The driver of the truck managed to flee along with the truck.

## One killed by boatman

One allegedly killed by a boatman following a quarrel over boat fare recently.

According to witnesses, the boatman hit Shorab Hossain (42) of Talikandi village in Rajoir while he challenged the boatman taking excess fare.

Later, he was sent to the hospital in a critical condition where he succumbed to his injuries.

## Son stabs father, dies

A cruel son stabbed his father to death at Bengamara village in Kalkini thana of the district recently.

According to the sources, one Emdadul Bapari stabbed his father Rajab Ali Bapari mercilessly following a family feud. The victim was taken to the hospital in critical condition where he succumbed to his injuries.

A case was filed with the local police in this connection.

## Charmugria hat beset with problems

Charmugria hat, an important commercial centre is beset with manifold problems.

Inadequate space has been hampering the smooth trading. Silted drains and garbage dumped in the bazar areas are polluting the environment.

The bazar roads are too narrow and in dilapidated condition. Cracks have developed on many points of the roads.

Shops and sheds have been erected in unplanned manner creating inconveniences to the buyers and sellers.

## Poura polls campaign

With the announcement of the schedule for pourashava polls on January 23, 1993, the probable candidates for the posts of chairmen and commissioners of Madaripur pourashava launched their mass communication programme as a part of their election campaign.

The candidates have already started arranging tea-parties at their respective residences and elsewhere in the town. Some of the candidates have already started visiting the areas for mobilising the support of the voters through the door to door campaign.

Chowdhury Nurul Alam (Babu Chowdhury) — BNP, Jahander Ali Jahan — BNP, Khalilur Rahman — ex-Chairman, Alamgir Hossain — Awami League, Bazlur Rahman — Awami League, Khan Khairul Hasan Nuto — Awami League and Prof Mattur Rahman — district convener of Ghadani are the probable candidates for the post of chairman of Madaripur pourashava.

## Work on Habiganj town protection embankment uncertain

HABIGANJ, Dec 28: Work on a town protection embankment under the Khoai River Project has been uncertain as contractors of the district Water Development Board (WDB) decided not to participate in the tender, reports UNB.

The contractors told a press conference at the local press club today that they would not submit tender as the estimated cost was far below the market price of construction materials.

WDB has invited tenders in nine groups for Tk 1.75 crore work on January 27 and 29 years.

## Fire kills two, hurt 28 in Rangpur, Sirajganj

RANGPUR, Dec 28: Two people of a family were roasted alive and four houses burnt into ashes in a fire that broke out Monday at Kotlipara village in sadar thana of the district, reports UNB.

According to police, the fire originating from an open lamp soon engulfed the entire house and roasted alive house owner Fontpahan (45) and his daughter Sonia (6).

Later three other houses of the area also gutted. Deputy Commissioner and Police Super of the district visited the spot and distributed cash Tk 1,500 and some relief materials among the victims.

Another report from Sirajganj says: At least 28 people

were injured and property worth over Tk 13 lakh gutted in a devastating fire in Rayganj thana of the district on Wednesday.

Witnesses said the fire originated from a kitchen of one Mujibur Rahman at Koyabill village and engulfed the nearby 28 dwelling houses.

The injured people were admitted to local health complex.

Thana Nirbahi officer visited the spot on Thursday, but no relief material was distributed among the affected people.

Affected people were reportedly residing under the open sky.

## Drug addict youths on increase at Kushtia

## From Our Correspondent

KUSHTIA, Dec 28: The number of drug addict youths is growing alarmingly in Kushtia town.

Rural youths have become addicted to different items of intoxication like foreign-made wine, opium, country-made wine, drug, sedative tablets, mrita sanjibani sura, and other types of liquid containing alcohol.

According to a non-official survey, Kushtia town and its suburbs have turned into pen markets of drugs. All kinds of drugs and wine are available in medicine shops.

The survey reveals that the number of addicted teenagers is only five per cent and it is increasing day by day. A well organised circle has been smuggling these items of intoxication from India and sell those in Kushtia.

It is observed that drug addict old and young people visit the medicine shops mostly after sunset with a view to buying sedative tablets, liquid and injections. Even minor boys

are found looking for drugs in medicine shops.

Although sale of drugs without prescription is strictly prohibited, some dishonest medicine shopowners are carrying on this to make money.

It is also informed that the drug addict young men are being involved in various crimes to collect money for buying drugs.

Another report adds: Officials of both government and private organisations have been facing an acute residential problem at the town.

Officials of various government departments, banks, police and BDR personnel, employees and workers of mills and factories, lawyers and business community have been suffering much for housing problem.

The low-paid employees and the people of the fixed income group are the worst victims. They are to pay a big amount of their income by curtailing expenditure on daily necessities.



GOPALGANJ: Abdul Motaleb Mia, Deputy Commissioner addressing at a function of one-day long farmers' training course on nut production held here at Ulpur of the district recently. —Star photo

## Plan to distribute agri inputs in Khagrachhari

## From Our Correspondent

KHAGRACHHARI, Dec 28: The agriculture development committee of the Local Government Council of Khagrachhari hill district has taken up a project to distribute agricultural inputs worth more than Taka 10 lakh to the farmers of the eight thanas of the district.

This was disclosed in a monthly meeting of the agriculture development committee of the council held in the conference room recently chaired by Council Chairman Samiran Dewan.

The convener of the Agriculture Development Committee Manindra Kishore Tripura told the meeting that steps have already been taken to distributed seventeen power-tillers to the deserving farmers of the different thanas of the district construction of embankments and digging of

drains to facilitate the irrigation would include in the project, the convener said.

The convener further said that the necessary financial and technical assistance will be extended to twentythree betel leaf growers who sought assistance for betel leaf cultivation.

Another report adds: Fifteen metric tonnes of food-grains have been misappropriated from Ramghar thana food godown of the district, officials said.

Acting on a tip, the district Food Controller of Khagrachhari hill district along with Khagrachhari Sadar thana food offices conducted an enquiry and found short a quantity of 14 metric tonnes of wheat and 1.5 metric ton of rice in the godown. The officer-in-charge of the godown was also found absconded.

## EPI achieves success

JESSORE, Dec 28: Chowgacha thana in the district has achieved record success in implementation of Extended Programme of Immunization (EPI) since last year.

Its average success to overcome six diseases including tetanus, measles, polio, whooping cough, tuberculosis and diphtheria is 85 per cent, according to a source.

A detailed report received from Chowgacha thana health complex office indicates that success in DPT was 96 per cent in 1990. It was 95 per cent in 1991 while 88 per cent this year.

It is also learnt that mothers immunized 85 per cent in 1990, 65 per cent in 1991 and 73 per cent in 1992.

No death report either of children or expecting mother covered under EPI from any corner of the thana was heard during the period. EPI in this thana was initiated in 1987

one year before government took it up.

Deputy Civil Surgeon, in absence of Civil Surgeon, Jessore told this correspondent that EPI in eight thanas of the district progressing steadily giving a thana-wise figure. He said that success in Sharsa thana was 65 per cent. Keshabpur, Jhinkergacha and Jessore Sadar were paralysed. Bagherpara and Montrampur was slightly less than those of others while that of Hainagar was lowest. Determined efforts were under process to implement EPI well ahead of government schedule, he continued.

Incidentally, second national Immunization Week '92 started here as elsewhere in the country with full vigour and enthusiasm to drastically reduce high rate of neonatal infant child and maternal morbidity and mortality ensuring health for all by 2000.