

District roundup

NARAYANGANJ

Political parties urged to play effective role

Jan 4 : Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali recently urged all the political parties to play due role for effective functioning of parliamentary form of government, reports UNB.

Addressing a discussion meeting at the local Zia Hall the Speaker said we must establish the parliamentary system on a strong foot so that it can effectively solve national problems.

"Bridge of understanding between the government and the opposition on some major national issues is essential for nation building activities" the Speaker told the meeting.

Organised by Shapla, a socio-cultural organisation, the meeting was also addressed by Advocate Abul Kalam, MP, Prof Rezaul Karim, MP and Ataur Rahman, MP, Prof Bulbul Chowdhury, MP.

SIRAJGANJ

Property worth Tk 18 lakh gutted

Jan 4 : Two boys suffered burn injuries and property worth about Taka 18 lakh gutted in a fire at village Chawkanadum in Rayganj thana recently, reports UNB.

The injured are : Salim (5) and Abul Kalam (6). Both of them are sons of Jaisal Bepari.

At least 30 tin-shed houses were destroyed, 300 maunds of paddy burnt and 21 cattle-heads perished in the fire, which originated from the kitchen of Jaisal Bepari.

Villagers, however, brought the fire under control after two hours of frantic efforts.

FENI

Three terrorists nabbed with arms

Jan 4 : Three terrorists were arrested with arms in two separate drives by Sadar thana police on Wednesday, reports UNB.

Acting on secret information, police arrested Qudus (35) and Nurul Haque (30) at Uttar Dolia village of the thana with two pipeguns and a kirich. They were the terror of the area.

Sekandar (40) of Hajpara, Agrabad, of Chittagong district was caught by the villagers of Lamua with a pistol. Later he was handed over to the police.

Police said they were wanted in connection with several criminal cases.

GAZIPUR

Bishwa Ijtema from Jan 16

Jan 4 : Arrangement for Bishwa Ijtema scheduled to be held on January 16 is progressing fast at Tongi, reports UNB.

Organisers said about 600 devotees of 60 Tablig Jamaat have already reached there to participate in the grand congregation arrangement. A panel has already been made stretching over four square kilometres.

A separate panel with CI sheet has also been made for foreign devotees of the Ijtema. Three bulldozers of Roads and Highways Department and Bangladesh Army have been working here for levelling the ground.

CHUADANGA

Nazrul festival celebrated

Jan 4 : A day-long Nazrul festival in memory of the national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam was held at village Karpashadanga under Damurhuda thana of Chuadanga district recently, reports BSS.

The festival organised by Karpashadanga Nazrul Smriti Sangsad included cultural function and a discussion on the life and literature of the great poet.

Presided over by Moshuddin, Thana Nirbahi Officer of Damurhuda the discussion was attended by Dr Anwarul Karim, Principal, Meherpur Government College as chief guest.

Nazrul Islam visited and stayed at Karpashadanga several times in 1926-27. Nazrul festival is being held here for the last three years.

JAMALPUR

Severe cold wave disrupts normal life

Jan 4 : Severe cold wave swept over the district disrupted the normal life during the last few days, reports UNB. People said thick fog was covered the sky till 11 am Thursday forced the people to remain inside their houses. Movement of vehicles were also thin in the streets.

Plying of inter-district trains were delayed by eight hours and thousands of passengers were stranded at Bahadurabad and Jagannathganj Ghats due to acute visibility problem.

FARIDPUR

Inter-college athletics ends

Jan 4 : The zonal inter-college athletics and sports competition was held recently at local Rajendra University College play ground, reports BSS.

Professor Dr Enayet Kabir, Principal of Faridpur Medical College inaugurated the sports. About 90 athletes both male and female of greater Faridpur district participated in the sports.

In male group Rajbari Government College became champion bagging 29 points. In female group Government Sarada Sundari Mahila College of Faridpur became champion bagging 21 points.

Professor Shamsur Rahman, Principal of Government Rajendra University College distributed prizes among the winners.

KUSHIA

Reception to SSC examinees

Jan 4 : Kushtia press club on Friday accorded a reception to the SSC examinees of 1992 who got star marks, reports BSS.

Md Abul Khair, Deputy Commissioner, Kushtia distributed prizes and certificates among the students.

Teachers, students and elite of the town attended the function.

NAOGAON

Sujan Shilpi Gosthi's founding day observed

Jan 4 : The foundation ceremony of Naogaon Sujan Shilpi Gosthi was held at the local coronation hall society Thursday, reports UNB.

Newly appointed Deputy Commissioner Mahmud Hassan Alamgir attended as chief guest.

In his brief speech, the DC lauded the shilpi gosthi for pioneering role in establishing such organisation for enriching the culture and heritage of the great people of the country. He assured all possible help in this regard.

The president of the Gosthi Kazi Serajul Islam Hiru dwelt at length on the activities of the this gosthi in the past for the development of the culture and tradition of the nation.

Later, a musical soiree was held which was participated by the artistes of this gosthi.

CHANDPUR

Press club executives

Jan 4 : The biennial general meeting and election of the executive committee of Chandpur Press Club was held recently, reports BSS.

Quamruzzaman Chowdhury, President of the club presided over the meeting.

Quamruzzaman Chowdhury, Mohammad Hossain Khan and Ahsanuzzaman have been elected president, general secretary and treasurer respectively of the club for the next two years.

PATUAKHALI

Dev Coordination Committee meet held

Jan 4 : A meeting of the Patuakhali district Development Coordination Committee was held at the local Collectorate Bhaban here recently, reports BSS.

The meeting reviewed the development activities undertaken by various departments and progress of work.



SYLHET: Prof Sadruddin Ahmed Chowdhury, Vice-Chancellor, Shahjalal University of Science & Technology speaking as chief guest at a seminar arranged by the Sylhet Photographic Society recently.

Govt determined to ensure 'daal-bhat' for everybody

NETRAKONA, Jan 4 : State Minister for Relief Lutfur Rahman Khan has said that the government of Begum Khaleda Zia was firmly determined to ensure 'daal-bhat' for everybody, reports BSS.

He was addressing a public meeting at Kamakanda High School ground in Netrakona. Organised by the thana unit of BNP, the meeting was addressed by Whip of the parliament advocate MA Karim and other local BNP leaders.

The minister said, an accountable and democratic government had been formed in the country after nine-year of autocratic regime. He said, this government was working hard for the betterment of the people and making the country self-reliant.

Criticising a section of political parties who were disturbing peace and discipline, Khan said they did not want to see the country as self-reliant one.

The State Minister urged the people to remain vigilant against the trouble-makers and give all-out cooperation to the government for the sake of country's continued progress.

Blacksmiths in problems

The blacksmiths in all the 10 thanas of the district have been facing manifold problems. The prices of raw-materials like firewood, coal, iron and other chemicals have shot up abnormally while the price of

Bricks prices up

UNB report says : Prices of all categories of bricks have recorded a further rise affecting overall construction works

Electrification a must for irrigation, small industries

GAZIPUR, Jan 4 : The remote area of sadar thana is still out of rural electrification network which is essential for irrigation and small scale industries, reports UNB.

The IRRU-boro paddy, the main crops of the thana and other varieties of crops cultivated in dry season need continuous irrigation.

Local people said due to absence of power connections they are compelled to use high price fuel to operate their deep and shallow tubewells.

They alleged that shortage of oil and its exorbitant price had been hampering irrigation activities. Irrigation has become costlier and more difficult in the remote areas during the summer season.

Family welfare centres have been set up in this area with modern equipments which cannot be operated without electricity.

Perishable crops like onion and zinger and spices cultivation are facing setback due to absence of preservation facilities.

Local leaders urged the Rural Electrification Board to

Town beset with problems

Gazipur district town is beset with manifold problems hampering the normal life of the people.

Poor drainage system, accommodation crisis, mosquito menace, erratic power supply, absence of public toilet, inadequate traffic islands are some of the problems which troubled the town dwellers for long.

Most of the roadsides of the town have been occupied by unauthorised shopkeepers causing traffic jam and hampering easy movement of the pedestrians.

Moreover, the condition of the roads, which were made in the British regime is very poor and cracks and potholes have developed at many points risking the plying of heavy vehicles.

The town dwellers demanded of the authorities to take steps to develop the town

throughout the district. Due to lack of necessary fund and bank loan they are facing acute problem to maintain their livelihood and many of them have already left the profession.

They urged the authority to provide them with soft term loan facilities and take necessary steps for marketing of their products.

High prices of land and construction materials have been causing acute housing problem in the district town for a long time.

The population of the town is about one lakh but the construction of new buildings, residential quarters cannot take place to meet the growing needs due to high prices of raw materials.

Government and semi-government officials, teachers, businessmen, lawyers, physicians and students are the worst victims of the problem.

Many new offices, banks and organisations were opened in the town but none of them has its own office or residential quarters.

So far government or private entrepreneurs took no initiative to construct residential quarters to solve the housing problems in the town.

and renovate the road without further delay.

BSS adds: The closing ceremony of the week long combined regional guides camp was held on Friday evening at its national camp site at Bariopara in Kaliakoir thana of Gazipur district here.

Organised by Bangladesh Girls Guide Association, Capital Region State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahana Ara Begum attended as the chief guest in the closing ceremony.

Speaking on the occasion, the State Minister said that the girls guide of the country had rendered appreciable service during the various national programmes and post-disaster relief activities.

She said this sort of camp was very helpful to train the guides and called upon the members of the association to devote themselves for alleviating illiteracy from the country.

The participants of the camp rendered physical display and cultural functions. The State Minister also distributed prizes among the participants.

Notes from Manikganj

From Our Correspondent

MANIKGANJ Jan 4 : Brickfields here have continued to use firewood for burning bricks instead of coal despite government ban.

Firewoods are seen piled up in huge quantity in the brickfields. The owners said, it was cheaper than coal and adequately available.

There are also adequate supply of coal in four thana of the West Dhaka and Manikganj district.

Indiscriminate felling of trees and random use of bamboo-roots in brick fields of the areas have been damaging environment and speeding deforestation.

Local leaders demand stern action against the brick field owners in this regard.

Jhikka hat beset with problems

Jhikka hat, an important commercial centre is best 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.

Meet held on law, order situation

Monthly meeting on law and order situation was held at the conference hall of the Deputy Commissioner.

Presided over by Mortuja Hossain Munshi, Deputy Commissioner of Manikganj while the meeting was attended by the Superintendent of Police, Additional Police Super, President of Manikganj Press Club, officer-in-charge of all seven thana and other elite persons of the district.

The biennial conference of Jatitya Party, Manikganj Sadar thana unit was held at Ja-gir recently.

The conference was presided over by Md Golam Gaffer Khan and addressed among others by former Minister Col (Retd) Abdul Malek, Md Tamzun Ali, Hasan Imam Azam, Samsur Rahman, Kazi Sirazul Islam, Nurul Islam Nuru and Raju Ammed Lablu.

Later, an executive committee headed by Samsur Rahman as president and Kazi Sirazul Islam Kamal as general secretary was also formed in the conference.

Young girl commits suicide

A young girl allegedly committed suicide by taking poison in Daulatpur thana of the district recently.

The victim was identified as Fulmala (13), daughter of Monsur Ali of Rathura Village in Daulatpur thana.

The sources said, frustration was the reason behind the suicide.

Unauthorised power consumption

Unauthorised consumption of power without limit has become rampant throughout the district mounting system loss, local elite have informed.

The source said, at least two thousand unauthorised electric lines could be detected in the seven thana headquarter of the district.

A section of PDB men are involved in under-hand deals with unscrupulous consumers for regular pay-offs, they said.

On the other hand, a good number of electricity consumers complained that they were not getting their electricity bills in time for payment without sur-charge.

Local leaders urged the authorities to take action and stop this malpractice.

Science, technology week observed

The 16th science and technology week '92 was observed in Government Devdoro University College of Manikganj recently.

A three-day-long science fair was held at Manikganj Government Devdoro University College. The fair inaugurated by the Principal of the college Professor Md Saiful Hoque.

22 hurt in road mishap in Jamalpur

JAMALPUR, Jan 4 : Twenty-two people were injured, 10 seriously, when a Jamalpur bound coach turned turtle on Mymensingh Jamalpur road near Lahrikanda on Friday, police said, reports UNB.

The injured were rushed to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital.

Bullock shortage hits farming in Satkhira

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, Jan 4 : Acute shortage of bullock has been prevailing throughout the district causing serious obstacle to cultivation.

According to reports, 60 to 70 per cent families have no bullocks to till their lands. A vast areas of land in the district remains fallow every year.

Most farmers perform agricultural work on share basis as they can not afford to buy bullocks due to the sharp rise in prices. At present, a pair of bullocks costs Taka 8000 to Taka 12000.

As a result, they till their lands with spades and draw the harrows themselves. Many of them even use milch cows to cultivate the land resulting in gradual reduction in the production of milk. Every year diseases take a heavy toll of cattle.

According to an official source, every year a large number of cattle heads die in there district due to the floods.

On the other hand, greedy cobblers poison cattle in different places of the district to collect skins.

Another report adds: The cobblers of Satkhira district have been facing multifarious problems due to high prices of hides and skin and other necessities.

Due to lack of patronisation and financial support, a large number of cobblers of the district have given up their ancestral profession.

The prices of hides, skins and other inputs in this cottage industry increased manifold and gone beyond their purchasing capacity.

Most of the cobblers borrow loan from local money lenders at high rates of interest.

TB patients not getting proper treatment

PATUAKHALI, Jan 4 : Tuberculosis patients of the district are not getting proper treatment due to alleged carelessness of the physicians and the paramedic staff on duty in the TB clinic, reports UNB.

Local people alleged that the doctors and the paramedics remain always busy with their private business neglecting the official duty.

According to the clinic sources, there are about 10,000 TB patients in seven thanas of district. The thanas are Bauphal, Kalapara, Dasmira, Mirzaganj, Galachipa, Sadar and Dumki.

Most of the TB patients come from the working class and are living below poverty line. So they could not afford to the private physicians for treatment of the disease.

The patients are mixing with the community people without any restriction and spreading the germs creating health hazard for others.

Social workers suggested that a list of the TB patients of each thana should be prepared to provide proper treatment to them and others should be

cautioned about the danger of the disease to contain the spread of the disease.

Another BSS report adds: Minister for Post and Telecommunication Muhammad Keramat Ali recently said, the present government laid stress on the development of road communication for the socio-economic upliftment of the country.

The minister was addressing a gathering after unveiling the plaque of 60 km long Bakergonj-Subidhali-Barguna highway constructed at a cost of about Taka 30 crore.

All said despite resource constraints the government has undertaken various development projects in the country.

Referring to the reform works of the government the minister said the ruling party has fulfilled its election commitment in this locality by undertaking construction works of this road stop.

He called upon people of all walks of life to work unitedly for making the nation a self-reliant one.



BOGRA: This woman, apparently insane, eke out her life carrying two snakes around her neck. She does not speak any word except cha, cho, cha. — Star photo

Misappropriation charge against Headmaster

CHANDPUR, Jan 4 : A case has been filed with Chandpur sadar thana against the headmaster of Safarmali High School on charge of misappropriation of school fund, reports UNB.

Inspector of Anti-Corruption Bureau, Comilla Zone has filed the case on December 31 against the headmaster Aziz Ullah for defalcating of about Taka 1.50 lakh.

District Administration sources said two separate enquiry committee found the headmaster equally guilty of misappropriating the fund. They also detected many gross irregularities including misuse of power.

According to enquiry report, Government lump grant of Taka 15,000, recurring grant of the school Taka 12,250, reserve fund of Taka 19,381, monthly salaries with government benefits and allowance of three assistant teachers amounting to about Taka 44,874 have been defalcated from the November 1988 to October 1991.

The enquiry report detected a false school teacher and a false staff and he misappropriated their monthly salaries including government benefits and allowance amounting to Taka 57,097.

Dacoits kill one, loot goods in Kutubdia

From Our Correspondent COX'S HAZAR, Jan 4 : A 52-year-old man was shot dead and six others sustained bullet injuries as dacoits barged into two neighbouring houses at Kala Chanderpar village under Kutubdia Police Station and opened fire early today.

The armed dacoits also decamped with gold ornaments and other valuables worth about Taka 3 lakh from the houses of Mohammad Tahir and Shah Alam in the village at around 1:30 am Thursday.



NATORE: Local civil surgeon office brought out a rally at Bagatipara thana of the district recently to mobilise public support in favour of their EPI programmes. — Star photo