District roundup

RAJSHAHI

24 JCD activists arrested

Jan 5: Twenty-four activists of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) were arrested from Rajshahi University campus on Sunday after a clash between JCD activists and police left two cops and five others injured, reports UNB.

Witnesses and police said the clash erupted when a group of JCD activists tried to prevent some examinees from entering the examination hall in the 3rd RU Science Building at 10 am.

Police resorted to lathicharge to disperse the mob and picked up 14 JCD activists from the scene.

Campus sources said a faction of JCD enforced an indefinite strike on the campus on Dec 28 protesting the arrest and demanding release of its RU unit Organising secretary Babul Akhter. He was arrested under terrorism act on the

The JCD activists also kept the university office and class fooms under lock and key until the authorities called police and broke these on Saturday

FENI

Three dacoits rounded up

Jan 5: Angry people caught three notorious dacoits while they were decamping with the booty after committing dacoity at Rajnagar village of Sadar thana, police said here recently, reports UNB.

According to witnesses, the dacoits stormed the house of Gafur Member on December 24, beat the inmates including the house owner and looted valuables worth about Taka .50 lakh

On hearing alarm, hundreds of villagers gheraoed the dacotts and caught Hanju, Taher Amed and Shah Alam of Nyrajpur village. They were later handed over to the po-

MANIKGANJ

Poush mela begins

Jan 5: A week-long Shaikh Daroga Ali 11th Poush mela has begun here at Navarhat Ganabiddapith premises, reports UNB.

Organised by Bangshi Theatre the mela was inaugurated by Poet Syed Shamsul Hug while Rotarian Makfuruddin Ahmed was present as

Chairman of Dramatics department of Jahangirnagar University Salim Al Deen, Syed Badsha Alam and Nastr Uddin Yusuf were among others present on the occasion.

On the first day folk singers from different part of the country took part in the folk, Maizbandari and Baul song presentation. A drama was also staged on the day.

NAOGAON

Red Crescent members asked to gear up activities

Jan 5: The chairman of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society Syed Shahidul Huq Zaman MP, visited Naogaon zila branch of the society office recently, reports UNB.

He met the local members of the society and asked them to gear up the activities to help the distressed people of the district. He also discussed about the various problems faced by them and suggested ways and means to overcome the longstanding problems.

He also laid down the foundetton-stone of Naogaon Baby

In his brief speech, the chairman thanked local members for their active role in establishing the baby hospital He assured all possible financial help in constructing the

With the construction of the hospital a long felt demand of the local people will be met.

KHULNA

12 skins of deer seized

Jan 5: Forest officials recovered 12 skins of deer from a trawler in the river Rupsa, on Wednesday last, reports UNB. Acting on a tip, the officials

raided the trawler and recovered the skin. Two people Kausar and

Mohammad were arrested in this connection. A departmental case was

NETRAKONA

13,000 poultry birds distributed

Jan 5: Netrakona district Livestock Department so far distributed 13,000 poultry birds among the marginal and landless farmers of ten thanas of the district during the current fiscal year, reports BSS.

According to an official source, of the total, 4,000 poultry birds, khaki campbel, were distributed in Netrakona Sadar thana.

The programme has been taken up aiming at the development of socio-economic condition of landless and marginal farmers of the district, the source said.

BRAHMANBARIA

Heavy fog disrupts traffic

Jan 5: Heavy fog persisted throughout the district till 10 am Saturday last resulting in poor visibility and inconvehicular traffic, reports UNB.

Ferry communication between Ashuganj and Bhaiarab Bazar ferry ghat at Meghna were disrupted causing suffering to hundreds of night coach passengers.

Normal life in the district has also been affected due to thick fog. Rickshawpullers and the day labouerers are the worts sufferers.

HABIGANJ

Boy crushed under wheels of train

Jan 5: A boy was crushed under the wheels of a running train near Shaistaganj Railway station of the district on Sunday, reports UNB.

Eyewitnesses and police said, the victim Md Nasir (12) of village Khankarigaon in *Chunarughat thana was killed while he was crossing the rail

The body was sent to Sadar Hospital for autopsy A case has been filed with Shrimongal GRP.

MYMENSINGH

Training on farm research concludes

Jan 5 : The concluding session of a three week-long training programme on "Farming Systems Research" was held at the Graduate Training Institute (GTI) of Bangladesh Agricultural University on December 24,

says UNB. A total of 12 scientific officers including officers from Bidhan Chandra Krishi Biswabidyalaya of West Bengal took part in the course.

The training course was organised by the GTI while the session was presided over by Prof Md Mustafizur Rahman and Prof A M Shamsuddin was present as chief guest.

RAJBARI

Old man run over by bus, killed in Rajbari

Jan 5 : An old man was killed when a passenger bus ran over him on Rajbari-Baliakandi Highway today

Police said Fuat Ali, 70, was run over by the bus (Raj-4100) near Ray Bridge about 9 kilometres from Rajbari town, while he was crossing the road at about 9 am.

He died on the spot. Police sized the bus but the driver managed to escape.

The body was sent to the Rajbari llospital morgue for

COMILLA

Minor girl run over by speeding bus Jan 5: A minor girl was run

over by a speeding bus at Panchgaiya in Chawddhagram thana on Dhaka-Chittagong Highway recently, reports

Police identified the victim as Razia Akter (5). According to witnesses the

accident occurred while the girl was crossing the road. She died on the spot. The bus drove away.

The body was sent to morgue and a case has been filed with the police.



MANIKGANJ: Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda addressing a public meeting at Sharifbag Madrasha - Star photo premises under Dhamrai thana of the district recently.

Cold wave kills 35 so far

RANGPUR, Jan 5 : Mercury dropped in the northern region varying between six and ten degree celsius in the last one week leaving at least 25 persons dead in cold spell, reports BSS.

These people were elderly persons and infants belonging to the poor and destitute section, according reports reaching here from various places.

The sky remained overcast with fogs on Monday and the sun was never visible. Weather showed similar adversity a few days ago. Road transports and river

crafts experienced poor visibility particularly the ferries between Nagarbari-Aricha, Jagannathganj-Serajganj, and Teestamukh Ghat-Bahadura-

Night coaches, Ekota Express trains and other vehicular traffic reached their destinations much behind their schedules. Poor people of the northern districts con-

fined themselves in-doors during night times in the last few

UNB reports say : Five elderly people died in cold wave in remote villages of Keshavpur thana on Saturday when the mercury fell below 10 dégree celsius.

The dead were identified as Baksh Gazi (72) of village Manoharnagar, Ambari Bibi (69) of Panzia, Khokan Dai (62) of Hod, Arshad Ali (63) and Devi (61) of Malordanga.

UNB report from B'Baria says: Hundreds of night coach passengers on Dhaka-Sylhet Highway were put to untold sufferings as heavy fog disrupted ferry communications at the Meghna river for nearly 11 hours since Saturday mid-Ferry services between

Ashugani and Bhairab Bazar was affected because of poor visibility in dense fog that throughout Brahmanbaria district till 11

am Sunday morning. . Normal life in the district was also affected by the resulting could spell. Day labourers and rickshaw-pullers were the

worst victim.

Some 20,000 passengers were stranded at Aricha, Dauladia and Nagarbari ghats as ferry communication remained snapped due to heavy fog from 6 pm Saturday.

BIWTC sources said about 250 night coaches from Dhaka and northern, western and southern districts stranded at the ghats as ferries could not move due to poor visibility amid thick mist. Among the stranded pas-

sengers at Aricha, about 2,000 were Muslim devotees who were on their long-march towards Ayodhya from Dhaka with 13 buses, 1 truck and 2 micro buses. Launch services between

Aricha and Dauladia were also suspended as the heavy fog blanketed the river routes.

Poverty hampers primary edn programme in Moulvibazar clash between two rival groups gramme has achieved in dis-

MOULVIBAZAR, Jan 5: The progress of the Compulsory Primary Education Programme (CPEP) in the district is being hampered due to poverty of the people, reports UNB.

It may be mentioned that CPE programme was introduced in the Sadar thana of the district in the first phase in January 1992. The programme has already been launched in one thana of the 64 districts of the country and remaining thanas will be included in phases aiming at education for all by the year 2000

According to an official report, the total number of children got admitted in primary schools in Moulvibazar Sadar thana stood at 35,036 in the last year. Of them about 10,000 failed to attend the classes due to poverty.

Instead of going to schools, the children are to seek work for livelihood. They are grazing cattle in the fields or engaged in any petty work to eke out their living.

During the month of January and February of 1992, a total of 29,679 students took admission in 167 government primary schools of Sadar thana, but 5,357 did not turn up the schools.

On the other hand, most of the primary school houses in rural areas damaged by storms and floods in the last are yet to be repaired. Students have to attend classes having no seats benches.

Moreover, many of the schools are holding classes under the sky and lacking drinking water supply facili-

FP programme achieves target

Another report says : The target of family planning protrict during the last financial Official sources said the

contraceptive prevalent rate reached 52 per cent. Field camps for sterilization and special IUD programmes are being held every month on union council level.

Meanwhile, mass motivation for family planning has yielded good results among the fertile couple in the district. They voluntarily come to the family planning office to seek advice for planned parenthood, the sources added.

Pregnant wife tortured to death

Another report says : A pregnant housewife was allegedly tortured to death by her husband at village Sujanagar in Baralekha thana Thursday.

According to police Md Aktar Hussain used to torture his wife Rukeya Begum (25) since their marriage a few year back. On the fateful night he picked up a quarrel with her on some petty matters and at one stage started beating her mercilessly. She died on the

A case was registered with the police.

In another incident rickshawpuller Babul Miah (32) of village Ujirpur in the same thana was killed by some miscreants on Friday.

Police suspected that old enmity might be the scason behind the gruesome murder. A case has been lodged with the police. Another message adds: One

person was killed and 3 others sustained serious injuries in a

over the possession of a piece of land in village Masajan in Rajnagar thana of the district Wednesday. According to witnesses, the

clash ensued over the possession of a disputed plot of land in which Alema Begum (60) wife of Nanu Miah received stab injury. She was rushed to the Rajnagar health complex where she succumbed. . A case has been filed.

Warm-clothes distributed among poor people

Our Correspondent adds : Rotary club of Moulvibagarcentral distributed warmclothes to poor people re cently under their social wel-

A function on the occasion of clothes distribution was held at local Jahangeer community centre recently with Rotary Club of Moulvibazar Central President Fayzul Karim Mayun in the chair. Rtn L k Siddqui, MP.

Governor of Rotary district 3280 was attended the function as chief guest, while Rtn Mostafa Zaman Abbasi, former Rotary district governor and Rotary regional representative and Rtn AFM Obaidur Rahman, Rotary district 3280 secretary were attended as special guests.

In his speech of chief guest, Rtn L K Siddigi, MP said, the Rotarians cannot avoid the responsibilities to serve the society with all sincerity and seriousness. He advised the local Rotarians to built a stronger organisation in Moulvibazar because 'Real happiness is helping others'.

Later, the Rotary governor distributed worm clothes among 300 poor people.



MAULVIBAZAR: Rtn L K Siddiqi, MP, Governor, Rotary District-3280 distributing warm clothes to the poor people recently. It was organised by the Rotary Club of Maulvibazar - Star photo Central Rotary Club.

Notes from Brahmanbaria

From Our Correspondent BRAHMANBARIA, Jan 5: The convention of Brahmanbaria Paschim Kallayan Union '92 held in the Tarua High School premises recently.

The function presided over by Abul Kalam Azad while Education Secretary Shafful Alam attended as chief guest. Deputy Secretary Md Shajahan and CMM Shahiduddin Ahmed were present as special guests

It was addressed among others by Jasimuddin Abdul Khalique, Tajul Islam Afzal Hussain Chowdhury and Zabedur Rahman. Later an executive committee was formed with Emdabul

Islam and Mohd Shafigur

Rahman as president and general secretary respectively. Chowddamadal

A four-day long programme of Hindu festival "Chowddamadal" concluded at Sree Sree Rada Govinda Asram of village Mirzapur of Isapur (N) union under Sadar thana of the district recently.

festival concludes

The programme included recitation from Ramayan, and distribution of prasad.

In the concluding day, State Minister for Shipping Alhaj Advocate Harun-ur-Rashtd attended the function.

Protiba Nabinmela confce held

The triennial conference of Pratiba Nabinmela, Puniout of Sadar thana held at the local ground of the Puniout Mantaibari recently. The conference presided

over by Abbas Ali Khan Jewel. Former General Secretary DUCSU Abdul Kuddus Makhan, former Deputy Minister Humayun Kabir, Abdul Wahid Khan Labloo, Hafizur Rahman Mullah Kachi, Reza Mohd Tajul Islam, Advocate Liaqut Ali Khan, Strajul Islam Khan, Rakib Ahmed Khan, Moshiur Rahman and Ali Akbar were

present in the conference. Later, a 19-member committee was formed with Abul Kalam Azad and Mohad Kawsar Khan as president and secretary respectively.

Seminar on agriculture

Agriculture and livestock and fisheries departments jointly organized a seminar on present situation of agriculture and future possibility of Sarail Thana of the district held at the Sarail thana auditorium recently.

Thana Nirbahi Officer Abdur Rouf presided the function. Advocate Abdus Sattar, MP was present as chief guest while Deputy Commissioner Khabiruddin Ahmed, Deputy Directors, Agriculture Extension Department M A Bakar, Deputy Director BRDP Abul Monsur Fakir and Executive Engineer BADC Mozammel Haque were present as special guests.

Two get 5-yr RI for toll collection

RAJSHAHI, Jan 5: Two toll extortionists were awarded five years rigorous imprisonment here Thursday in a district anti terrorism tribunal reports UNB.

According to the prosecution Pitu Kumar Gosb (22) and Golam Mustafa of Fudkipara of the city demanded toll amounting Taka 5,000 from Nazimuddin, an assistant teacher of Rajshahi Collegiate school and resident of the

The teacher informed the matter to the police immediately and they were caught red handed. After examining the evidences and witnesses the

judge AKM Azizul Haq found the accused guilty and delivered the verdict. Another report adds : Four supporters of Bablu faction of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal of

Rajshahi University were re-

They were arrested Tuesday while picketing to protest the arrest of Babul Akhter Bablu, Organising Secretary of JCD Rajshahi University unit.

leased Wednesday.

Chandpur govt college faces various problems From Our Correspondent

CHANDPUR, Jan 5: Chandpur Govt Hasan Ali High School is beset with multi farious problems for a long time.

The school is the only boys high school in the district headquarter. The school is facing various problems such as accommodation of classrooms, shortage of water supply, hostel accommodation, shortage of teachers, shortage of scientific equipments, transport facilities, auditorium, playground etc. There is no headmaster in the school for last three years. Due to lack of headmaster the administration and the academic atmosphere are hampered.

Classes are not held properly. Courses remain incomplete. It is reported students are adopting unfairmeans even in the Annual Examinations. A number of students were expelled for adopting unfair means in the last, Annual Examination. It is reported that students were not-expelled even for adopting unfair means due to influence of the guardians.

The school can admit only fifty students in each section but in every section there is about eighty students. The school has a small hostel, situated in a far place of the

Chemical fertilizers hit fertility of soil

BARGUNA, Jan 5 Indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizers and continued cultivation of same crop on the same plot of land gradually destroyed the production capability of soil in the district, reports UNB.

Most of the farmers use their lands thrice in a year for producing crops with heavy application of chemical fertilizers. At least 70 to 80 seers of chemical fertilizers including urea, TSP and potash are being used in per bigha of land, farmers said.

On the contrary, the farmers rarely use organic fertilizers including cowdung to raise the fertility of the soil due to their ignorance on soil component. According to an agri-official,

cultivators having little knowl-

edge about soil components

use fertilizers indiscriminately

to get maximum production.

They are also in the habit of cultivating same crops on same land for years together without interval Source said per bigha paddy

production in 1971 was 28 to 30 maunds in the district while in 1991 the production has come down to only 12 to 15 maunds with the application of same quantity of chemical fertilizers. BSS report from Barisal

adds : The Public Works Department (PWD) of Barisal circle has completed two projects at a cost of Taka 1,51,42,000/- in two southern districts in the current fiscal According to official sources

Taka 98 lakh was spent for the construction of Barisal income and Bhavan and Taka 53.42 lakh for the office of the Deputy Commissioner of taxes at Patuakhali district, the source said.



MADARIPUR: A scene from a drama 'Itihash Katha Kao staged here recently arranged by Udichi Madaripur Zila - Star photo Sangsad.

Rotarians urged to help create more income generating activities

JESSORE, Jan 5: Social Welfare and Women Affairs Minister Tarigul Islam on Saturday called upon the members of the Rotaract Club to help create more income generating activities in the rural areas instead of giving relief to the poor people for eco-

nomic uplift for the country. reports BSS. He was addressing the 9th Rotaract district conference in

Jessore.

Presided over by Rotaract Moazzem Hossain, the conference was also addressed by Rotary District Governor nominee Magsur Uddin Ahmed.

The Minister said that the voluntary organisations should come forward with their service mission to give our people a country free from poverty. malnutrition and illiteracy. He urged the Rotaracts and

Rotarians to include compul-

sory mass literacy programmes

in their regular development

Members of 95 Rotaract Clubs of the country attended the conference.

Another report says: Minister for Social Welfare and Women Affairs, Tariqui Islam called upon the students to make themselves worthy citizens of the society to shoulder the future responsibility of carrying forward the

Addressing a students' rally at local college ground here, Tarigul Islam said that people of all walks of life including the students irrespective of political affiliations had to help maintain a stable and congental atmosphere for unhindered growth of democracy and de-

velopment in the country. He called upon the students to rise above all provocations for their own future and greater interest of the nation.

Bamboo output on wane C'nawabganj adds: Four politi-

CHAPAINAWABGANJ, Jan 5: Bamboo production has decreased to a great extent in eight northern districts due to lack of proper maintenance and systematic plantation, reports UNB. The bamboo clusters are

decaying in Chapainawabgani.

Rajshahi, Natore, Naogaon, Pabna, Strajganj, Bogra and Jaypurhat districts as the ignorant growers use the clusters as firewood, informed sources There were thousands of bamboo clusters in the homestead of these districts. But

due to reckless uprooting the very existence of bamboo is threatened in these districts. According to agricultural experts, under natural process a bamboo plant yields only 2 to 3 new sprouts while proper care and rearing will enable a plant to yield 15 to 20 new

sprouts a year. But the owners who are ignorant of cultivation process believe that to plants grow as a natural process.

No steps have yet been taken to save the bamboo clusters from decaying. Another report from

election of the district. The four parties are Awami League, Bangladesh Nationalist Party, Jamaat-e-Islami and Jatiya Party. Campaign has already

cal parties have completed

their nomination for the poura

gained momentum with processions, rallies postering and door to door visit by the prospective candidates and their supporters. Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC) planted 1.97 lakh mulberry plants in cooperation of World Food Programme during the last four years in three thanas of the district,

According to official sources, a total of 1166 members of 113 associations took part in mulberry planting and they earned about Taka 75.62 lakh from 4026 kg of cotton produced every year. Meanwhile, work is going

reports UNB.

cost of Taka two crore at the Rajbari industrial estate with the assistance from Germany. The factory employing about

on to set up a silk factory at a

400 women is expected to be opened soon.