

District roundup

AGRI-VARSITY

BAU music society executives

Jan 10: The 16-member executive committee of the Music Society, an organ of Teacher-Student Centre of Bangladesh Agricultural University, has been formed for the sessions 1992-93 and 1993-94, reports UNB.

Prof Ratneswar Karmakar has been made President, Md Shahjahan Vice President and Monwar Ibrahim General Secretary of the society.

Other office-bearers of the committee include Students' Welfare Officer as ex-officio Treasurer, Ataur Rahman and Tuhin Hasan as Assistant General Secretaries and Makhan Chandra Roy, Manjurul Kadir, Amalendu Barman, Golam Moshed, Kamrul Hasan, Abdul Monnaf and the Cultural Secretary of BAUCSU as its members.

The 14-member executive committee of the Literary Society of TSC, BAU for the sessions 1992-93 and 1993-94 has also been formed with Prof KS Islam, Dr KM Hasanuzzaman and M Alamgir Chowdhury as its President, Vice-President and General Secretary respectively, says a press release.

Other office-bearers of the committee include Students' Welfare Officer as Treasurer, Nur Islam and Nazmul Islam Manik as Assistant General Secretaries and A Mannan, A Kader, Mahmudul Hasan, Mostafa Kamal, Nasrin Sultana Killy, M Yusuf Ali, Shahadat Hossain Sohad and Literary Secretary of BAUCSU as its members.

BARISAL

Pry students to get 3,43,000 sets of books

Jan 10: At least 3,43,000 sets of books will be distributed free of cost among the primary school students in the district during the current academic year, reports UNB. Official sources said the distribution of books has already been started from the last month and is expected to be completed by this month.

Thanawise allotment is as follows: 67,000 sets for Class I to Class V for Sadar, 21,000 sets for Agailjhaba, 33,000 sets for Uzirpur, 30,000 sets for Gournadi, 21,000 sets for Babujanji, 60,000 sets for Bakerganj, 24,000 sets for Banaripara, 25,000 sets for Muladi, 45,000 sets for Mehendiganj and 17,000 for Hiza.

KISHOREGANJ

Annual police sports held

Jan 10: The annual police sports meet was held at the local stadium on Monday with much enthusiasm, reports UNB.

Additional DIG of police, Dhaka range, Modabir Hossain Chowdhury inaugurated the meet as chief guest while Shirin Chowdhury distributed the prizes among the winners.

Police Super of the district Kazi Zoyunul Abedin Bir Pratik presided over the meet. The ASP Sadar, Abdul Basar Mollah, Tapan Kumar Datta, Raisuddin Mohammad, MA Bari Khan Basar Uddin Faruki were among others present on the occasion.

Over 100 competitors participated in the 24 events of the competition.

CHITTAGONG

Publication of Desher Katha observed

Jan 10: The 20th anniversary of publication of the vernacular daily Dainik Desher Katha was celebrated here yesterday, reports BSS.

A function held in this connection at the Zila Parishad Hall was presided over by the Desher Katha Editor, Moslem Khan. Dainik Azadi Editor Prof Muhammad Khaled attended the function as the chief guest, while principal A Rezaul Karim Chowdhury, Chittagong Press Club President Ataul Hakim, Chittagong District Bar Association President Advocate Shamsuddin Ahmed Mirza, Weekly Samaj Editor B A Azad Islamabadi and Advocate Badul Alam addressed the meeting.

Prof Muhammad Khaled called upon the journalists to strict to professional ethics in order to uphold the image of journalism. He said, newspaper organisation was yet to be recognised as full-fledged industry in the country.

LALMONIRHAT

Hailstorm lashes over town, 500 homes smashed

Jan 10: A hailstorm lashed over the town on Friday smashing 500 homesteads and damaging standing crops on 15,000 acres of land, reports UNB.

Witnesses said the hailstorm sweeping over the town and adjoining Teesta and two other unions for about two hours from 11 am also uprooted some electric poles and caused damage to a good number of vehicles.

Meanwhile, cold wave claimed five lives in different parts of the district in last three days as drizzle continued to disrupt normal life in the district. Driven by biting cold some people were seen taking shelter in piled up straws.

COMILLA

Selling of phensidyl unabated

Jan 10: Smuggling and selling of banned Phensidyl syrup has alarmingly increased and buying of the drug by the youth poses a social threat in the district, reports UNB.

Some dishonest medicine dealers of the town are involved in smuggling of the syrup. The addicts crowded in the hotels, restaurants and busy spots after sunset. A bottle of phensidyl syrup is sold at Taka 30 in the town and Taka 35 to 40 in the hinter lands.

During the last year, BDR, customs, police and narcotics department seized about one lakh bottles of the banned item, official sources said adding that three to four lakh bottles are being smuggled every year.

Dr Zobaidda Hanna, a medical practitioner of the town said the band item is a cough syrup but it is used as stimulant and the users feel a bit euphoria and that one may be addicted to it within a short time. Frequent use of the drug may cause harm to nervous system.

PIROJPUR

30 meritorious students get stipends

Jan 10: Thirty meritorious students were awarded Emdad Ilaque stipends at a simple ceremony here Thursday, reports UNB.

Prizes were given to the students at the ceremony held at Morshed Smriti Sishu Nikatan which was presided over by Shamsul Alam Bhu. It was addressed, among others, by Deputy Commissioner Momotajuddin Ahmed, Protul Bramman, Ali Ahmed Milu and Abdur Razzak.

Another report from the district adds: A music academy named Moonmoon Shantig Academy was inaugurated in the town by Mahmood Haq Shamim.

The organisation awarded prizes among the four persons for their contribution in various fields. They are Advocate M A Salam Talukdar, Azizul Haq Molla, Dr Habibur and Mahamud Hossain Churnu.

HABIGANJ

Minor girl commits suicide

Jan 10: A minor girl allegedly committed suicide by hanging herself from the ceiling of her house at Umed Nagar village in the pourashava Tuesday, reports UNB.

Police identified the victim as Zahanara (13) of Umed Nagar village under Habiganj pourashava.

Police recovered the body of Zahanara (13) from her house on and sent it to Sadar Hospital for autopsy.

The reason behind the suicide could not be known. A case has been lodged with the local thana.

Another message from Madaripur adds: A youngman allegedly committed suicide by taking poison at Mohishmari village in Rajor thana Monday.

Family sources said the victim Sheikh Bala (18), son of Nagarbasti Bala was suffering from mental agony due to their extreme poverty. Finding no other way to get rid of the poverty he allegedly killed himself.

A case has been filed with the local police.



JAMALPUR: The cyclonic storm that hit Mahdan union under Sarishabari thana of the district damaged most of the kancha houses on January 8. —Star photo

Loan exemption order yet to be implemented

Farmers facing liabilities

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Jan 10: The farmers of Sirajganj district are facing problem with local liabilities amounting about Taka 14 crore following non-implementation of the Government order of exemption of agricultural loan upto Taka 5000 only.

It is gathered that an amount of Taka 23,23,11,000 were disbursed among the members of 2981 co-operative societies under Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB) in Sirajganj district as crop loans, deep and shallow tubewell loans and agricultural development loans from 1975 to March 1991. An amount of

Taka 12,36,43,000 were realised and the rest amount have been lying outstanding for a long.

Meanwhile, on November 12, 1991, during national prize distribution ceremony among the co-operator farmers, the Prime Minister declared that agricultural loan upto Taka 5000 with interest will be exempted. But the steps about the TCCAS under BRDB is not taken as yet. The rural credit division of Sonali Bank, head office in this circular No 649 dated 14.12.92 have noted that the government decision of exempting

loan is not applicable for the agricultural loans disbursed among the farmers of TCCAS. Hence, according to the government decision loan amounting to Taka 13,79,36,000 are exemptible in Sirajganj district. The disbursing banks have lodged about 150 certificate cases against the cultivators to realise agricultural loans. Following such inconveniences, the defaulter farmers are not getting new loans and are frustrated.

The loanee farmers have appealed to the higher authorities to take necessary steps to save them from liabilities of the exemptable loans.

UPEP faces serious setback

From Our Correspondent

KUSHTIA, Jan 10: The universal primary education programme (UPEP) has been facing a serious setback in the district.

According to Primary Education Department, there are 549 primary schools in the district. About one lakh children are being imparted primary education in these schools run by government or private initiative.

It is reported that the condition of most of the schools are dilapidated. Inadequate furniture and shortage of teachers are the main causes hampering the education. High prices of papers and other educational appliances, financial crisis and social problems are also hindering the progress. Moreover, the schools dam-

aged by floods, storm and cyclone over the last few years have not yet been repaired. The shortage of teachers and accommodation problem have aggravated the situation.

Cracks have developed on the roof of the most of the school buildings for which the students cannot attend classes during rainy season. Very often classes are taken under open sky.

Most of the schools have no tubewell and the students are to take impure water from the nearby ponds and canals. For economic crisis, the students are to help their parents in their daily work for ensuring bread. So a large number of students are unable to attend classes and consequently they are deprived of

the education. Another report adds: Meanwhile, the girl students in the district town have been undergoing a lot of inconveniences due to lack of school transport.

There are five girls high schools and one college in the town. About 3000 girls students of the town and its suburbs attend those institutions regularly either by rickshaws or on foot.

Rickshaw fare in the town is beyond the capacity of many guardians and poura authority has failed to take any effective measures to keep the roads free from congestion.

The students and guardians have urged the authorities to take steps in this regard as early as possible.

Stress on pisci-culture uplift

KOTCHANDPUR (Jhenidah), Jan 10: Environment and Forest, Fisheries and Livestock Minister Abdullah-al Noman stressed the need for development pisci-culture in a planned way to provide increasing population with necessary nutrition, reports BSS.

He was addressing a fishermen's rally and concerned officials at Kotchandpur Baor Unnayan Project complex under Jhenidah district while inaugurating fish procurement at Bahur Baor.

The Fisheries Minister was informed that about 500 tons of fish in 1050 hector water

bodies of six baors of this region was being produced annually. Thirty more baors of greater Faridpur and Jessore district would be taken for development under the project.

The rally was also addressed, among others, by Shahidul Islam MP, Mashur Rahman MP and Santosh Kumar, a fishermen's representative.

Noman said present government was undertaking various uplift projects suitable for the professionals of the respective regions. He called for united cooperation of the respective regions. He also called

for united cooperation of all irrespective of caste and creed to help implement these programmes.

He said it was the prime time to uphold the norms and values of all religions and sustain the rare image of glorious heritage of communal harmony of the country.

Earlier, the minister called upon the party workers to maintain law and order in spite of provocation of the vested quarters while addressing a condolence meeting held at the local bus stand on the recent killing of local BNP leader Mohiuddin Ahmed by some unknown miscreants.

125 commit suicide in one dist during one yr

PABNA, Jan 10: At least 125 people including 71 women committed suicide in Pabna Sadar thana during the last year, reports UNB.

According to the police, 32 persons committed suicide by hanging, 51 by taking insecticide and poison and 42 others by other methods.

A total of 125 unnatural death cases had been filed with in this connection. A report from Magura says: Three housewives allegedly committed suicide in the district in

separate incidents, police sources said on Wednesday.

Sufia Khatoon (18), wife of Abdul Mia of Khatakali village, Kamola Begum (22), wife of Saber Ali of Nibandual village in Sadar thana and another Alpona Begum (25) wife of Akram Hossain of Degholgram village in Salikha thana allegedly committed suicide by taking poison.

Family feud, poverty and dowry were said to be the main reasons behind the alleged suicide.

Workers' Party unit meet held

MAGURA, Jan 10: A meeting of the district unit of Bangladesh Workers Party was held here Monday, reports UNB.

Tarapada Biswas presided over the meeting while it was addressed, among others, by Prof Gazi Feraj, Bimol Biswas and Mosharraf Hossain.

The meeting discussed the present political situation of the country. They expressed grave concern over the deteriorating situation in the district.



SYLHET: A good number of people took part in a day-long hunger strike protesting the immediate withdrawal of shutting down of Fenchuganj Fertilizer Factory recently. —Star photo

Withdrawal of false case against five newsmen demanded

LALMONIRHAT, Jan 10: Leaders of different political parties, voluntary associations and 81 intellectuals and advocates demanded withdrawal of the false case against the five journalists of the district, reports UNB.

The district Anti-corruption Department filed a case against District Press Club President and the Sangbad Correspondent Gokul Roy, Club Secretary and Editor of Janajani' Sultan Ahmed, UNB Correspondent Mukul Mahubb, The Daily Dinkal Correspondent Golam Mostafa and the Meilatt Correspondent Syed Ali Hossain.

District BNP President Asadul Habib Dulu, Maqbul Hossain (Awami League), Syed Ali (JP), Goura Gopal Shaha (CPB), Rezaul Karim (JSD-Inu), Isahaq Uddin (Muktijoddha unit commander), Motinul Hossain (Secretary, local library) and teachers, advocates and intellectuals in a joint statement said the journalists were implicated with a false case as they fearlessly and impartially unearthed the news of corruption in the district Anti-corruption department.

Meanwhile, Secretary General of Bangladesh Sangbad Samity Kalyan Saha seeking her intervention urged the Prime Minister Begum Khaleida Zia to stop unnecessary harassment to the working journalists of the district.

Another report adds: The 45th founding anniversary of Bangladesh Chhatra League was

observed here in a befitting manner.

A colourful procession of about 5 hundred students under the banner of BCL (M-I) paraded the different streets of the town in the morning chanting various slogans.

A discussion meeting and a cultural function were held in the afternoon. They vowed to free campus from violence and urged all students to join the BCL for the greater interest of the student community.

Pro-JSD (Inu) Chhatra League also observe the founding anniversary on the same day and brought out a procession in the town.

Involvement of youth community in social activities stressed

LUXMIPUR, Jan 10: Seventh founding anniversary of 'Provati Juba Sangha', a socio-cultural organisation of Poddarhat village of the district headquarters was observed in a befitting manner on Thursday, reports UNB.

A discussion meeting was held to mark the day which was addressed by renowned litterateur Ahmed Safa, Master Ruhul Amin, President of Noakhali unit Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee, Rafiqul Haidar Chowdhury and local Awami League leader and freedom fighter Kalam Chowdhury.

Govt pledge bound to protect people's right

AVOYNAGAR (Jessore), Jan 10: Agriculture and Irrigation, Flood Control and Water Development Minister M Majidul Haque said that the present government was pledge bound to protect the fundamental as well as political rights of the people by establishing social justice and exploitation-free society in the country, reports BSS.

He was addressing as chief guest a huge public meeting at Sundali Girls' High School premises under Avoynagar thana of Jessore district.

Organised by the Jessore branch of Bangladesh Jatyatabat Tafsil Cell, the meeting was addressed, among others, by convener of the organisation Kartik Chandra Tagore, convener of the district branch Nihar Ranjan Mallik and a number of local leaders of the organisation. Haque is the chief adviser of

the organisation.

Referring to the development programmes undertaken by the government throughout the country the Agriculture Minister said it was the high time to fulfil the hopes and aspirations of the people by consolidating the hard-earned democracy. He said, the people of this country would maintain traditional communal harmony.

He said, the government was taking effective measures to improve the condition of the toiling people who were so long neglected.

The Minister further said that the government was taking more effective programmes for solving the water stagnant problem of Bhabadaha of this area.

Earlier, the Minister visited BADC machinery store, fertilizer godown and regional workshop of Jessore.

Notes from Chuadanga

From Our Correspondent

CHUADANGA, Jan 10: One Abed Ali a rickshawpuller aged about 22 years of Chuadanga town was stabbed to death by another rickshawpuller Buro in front of local pourashava recently.

It is learnt that the victim Abed Ali when came in front of the local pourashava along with his rickshaw in the evening on November 26 last Buro, another rickshaw puller who was waiting there along with his rickshaw without any provocation stabbed abruptly Abed Ali and immediately fled away. The local people immediately rushed Abed Ali to local sadar hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.

In this connection a case has been started with Chuadanga police station.

Minibus helper killed

Due to carelessness a young boy Kader, the helper of a mini-bus bearing no-038 was killed recently.

It is learnt that Kader was the helper of the mini-bus. He was on duty in the mini-bus.

The minibus was coming to Chuadanga from Jessore. When the minibus reached at Damurhuda six miles from here, said helper Kader got down there for taking passengers. After the passengers got down the driver drove the minibus without taking the helper. The helper tried to get up in the running minibus hurriedly but failed and fell down under the wheels of the minibus.

As a result he was critically injured. He was immediately taken to Chuadanga sadar hospital for treatment where he died.

Kader hails from village Kuada of Jessore district.

One held with revolver, pipegun

A police constable of Alamdanga thana under Chuadanga district established a brave example by arresting an armed person and recovering one revolver, one pipegun and four rounds of ammunition from the arrested person recently.

It is learnt that police constable Lal Mia was on duty at Alamdanga railway station in a simple dress and when he found one Chayen alias Kahu was moving there suspiciously. Lal Mia challenged him when Chayen aimed at Lal Mia by a revolver and tried to shot. Lal Mia caught hold Chayen and arrested him in cooperation with the local people.

One nabbed on charge of woman trafficking

Chuadanga thana police arrested one Ainal of village Daulatdia under sadar thana on charge of woman trafficking recently.

It is learnt that said Ainal got married one Anwara daughter of one Mofiz Choukider of village Alokdia under Chuadanga sadar thana five years back.

After marriage accused Ainal sold his wife Anwara to one Rupchand of the Bihar state of India.

One run over by truck

One Toyeb Ali of local Kederganj Para was run over by a speeding truck and became severely injured as a result he was taken to Chuadanga sadar hospital where he died recently.

It is learnt that said Toyeb Ali was going to mosque early in the morning for saying his Fazar prayer when the killer truck hit him. As a result he was critically injured. Immediately he was taken to Chuadanga sadar hospital for treatment where he succumbed to his injuries.

A case has been started in this connection with the local police station.



DINAJPUR: Some tahsilder in collaboration with the doctor has taken away the anus of this Aklima Begum (10) and diverted rectum to her left belly. Liquid filths coming out of it continuously. —Star photo

Govt committed to extend medicare to rural people

CHIRBHADRASON (Faridpur), Jan 10: Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf said the government was committed to the development and proper health education to the rural people to achieve social and economic uplift of the country, reports BSS.

The minister was speaking as chief guest at the inauguration of the week long motivational exhibition on the health education activities of the Health Education Bureau at Chirbhadrason thana health complex under Faridpur district recently.

Presided over by Civil Surgeon, Faridpur, the function was also addressed by Deputy Director (Health) Dhaka Division, chief of Health Education Bureau and DC