District roundup

MADARIPUR

Killing of five long-marchers protested

Jan 12: Bangladesh Research Centre of the district Wednesday in a meeting protested the killing of five long marchers by police firing in Jessore, reports UNB.

Presided over by BRC secretary general Md Salim Farazi, the meeting demanded immediate judicial inquiry into the "indiscriminate police firing" on the peaceful marchers and exemplary punishment to those responsible.

The speakers said the recent shooting incident by some members of Navy in Chittagong was a major threat to the rule of law and democracy in the country.

The meeting was addressed, among others, by BRC central committee members Forkan Ahmed, Borhanus Sultan, Khaledur Rahman, Abul Hasan Sohel and Delwar Hossain.

CHITTAGONG

One killed, 12 others hurt in road mishap

Jan 12: One person was killed and at least a dozen others were injured when a speeding bus turned turtle at Shakpura, 20 km off-here on Sunday, reports BSS.

District police sources said, the accident took place as the bus was driven at a break-neck speed.

Ten of the injured passengers were admitted to Chittagong medical college hospital for treatment.

Assistant of the bus fled away after the accident, police

KHULNA

National science, technology week inaugurated

Jan 12: The 16th national science and technology week started here on Wednesday at Khulna Model High School, reports UNB.

About 27 stalls of different schools, colleges and science clubs participated in the week. Khulna Metropolitan Police Commissioner Osman Ali Khan inaugurated the week.

Another message from Madaripur adds: The national science and technology week began here Sunday at Government Nazimuddin College Campus.

The programme included exhibition of science and technology projects by secondary schools, madrashas colleges and science clubs.

Md Abdus Sattar Miah, Deputy Commissioner of the district, inaugurated the week A large number of people are visiting the centre every day with much enthusiasm.

NETRAKONA

Moderate rainfall experienced

Jan 12: Netrakona district town and its adjoining areas experienced light to moderate rainfall on Saturday and Sunday, reports BSS.

The sky remained overcast with clouds and the sun was not visible at the day time. The inclement weather had forced the people to remain indoor.

Untimely rainfall had caused extensive damage or rabi crops including potato and mustard on a vast tract of land in Netrakona district.

KISHOREGANJ

Plying of cargo vessels hazardous

From Our Correspondent Jan 12: Plying of cargo vessels and passenger launches from Bhairab to Sachna in Sunamgani district has become hazardous over the last few

marks in the rivers. As the rivers swell during rainy season scrangs face a lot of troubles in plying launches and cargo vessels in the rivers because of hazy sum in vast

years due to absence of guiding

tract of haors. The cargo vessels and passenger launches while plying over this riverine route often get stranded at different points on the shallow haors causing much hindrance to the movement of both passengers

and merchandise. The owners of these vessels and launches urge upon the concerned authorities to step up a requisite number of tron made poles at different points marking the course of the river for safer journey.

JAMALPUR

Cold wave claims 3 lives

From Our Correspondent Jan 12: Cold wave claimed three lives in the district during the last ten days.

Of them, two died in Dewangoni thana and another one died in Islampur thana.

Another report adds: One Razia Khatun (25), wife of Anis Ali of village Gopinthpur in Sadar thana committed suicide by hanging herself with a mango tree.

She committed suicide over family problems, it is learnt.

SYLHET

Tk 70 thousands distributed among storm-hit people

Jan 12: The district administration Sunday distributed cash money of about Tk 70 thousands among the tornado hit people in some areas of the district, reports UNB.

Besides administrative programmes, Bangladesh Red Crescent Society gave first aid to 139 affected people of Goainghat and distributed medicines.

Deputy Commissioner MA Latif, who visited three thanas - Lengura, Tuakkul and Alirnagar, said more that 90 per cent of thatched homed had been damaged in the area.

During the visit, the DC assured of all possible help from the government for the storm

AGRI-VARSITY

Bachelor Courses class from Jan 25

Jan 12: The routine-wise academic programme for the students admitted into the part one Bachelor courses under various faculties o Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) for the session 1991-92, will commence on January 25, says a press re-

Prior to this, a day-long orientation programme for the newly admitted students will be inaugurated at the Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin auditorium at 10 am on January 23. It may be mentioned here that participation in the orientation programme is obligatory for all concerned students.

Press release adds: The M.Sc examinations under various faculties of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) for the years 1988 and 1989. Which were scheduled to be held on January 10 and 12 have temporarily been suspended due to unavoidable reasons, says a notification issued by the examination section of BAU.

The notice further states that the suspended M.Sc examinations for the above years will now commence on January 25 and 26.

The detailed schedules for those examinations will be published soon.

SHERPUR

One held with Indian sugar

From Our Correspondent

Jan 12: Jheenaigathi thana police seized four bags of Indian sugar worth about Taka 9000 and arrested one person in this connection from Botragirpara border area under Jheenaigathi thana of the district recently.

Acting on a secret information thana police challenged the man including sugar bags and caught him red-handed with the contraband goods.

The arrested person is Abdur Razzak of village Khotlkuda of the same thana.

were handed over to the local Customs Department. A case has been field in this connection with local police

Later the recovered sugar

BARISAL

station.

7,560 kg silver recovered

Jan 12: Acting on secret information, the Bakerganj thana police have recovered 7,560 kilo grams of silver from a trawler laden with log in the Simanta river, reports BSS.

The silver, estimatedly valued at Taka 16 crore, was hidden in 217 packets.

One Abdus Sattar Hawlader of Chagaldi village of Bakerganj thana was arrested in this connection.

The police suspected that the recovered silver was being smuggled out of the country.



BANDARBAN: Information Minister Nazmul Huda and Sigma Huda are seen discussing with local Human Right workers on January 7. - PID photo

Water level fall in Padma, Jamuna abnormal

Plying of big vessels stopped

PABNA, Jan 12: Plying of big vessels in the Padma and Jamuna has stopped due to an abnormal fall in water level and authorities fear disruption of ferry services in all routes of the two major rivers shortly, reports UNB.

According to Bangladesh Inland water Transport Authority (BIWTA) sources, the department had stopped plying ships above six feet draft in the rivers while movement of big water vessels in all ferry routes of the rivers also came

Ferry services in Nagarbari-Aricha, Aricha-Daulatdia, Sirajganj-Nalcia, Sirajganj-Bahaduradad and Jagannat-hganj routes came under threat with emergence of huge shoals and heavy siltation of river channels, sources added.

Over 10,000 shoals had surfaced in 215 kelometres of the countries vital river routes from Daikhowa to Goalanda making water transportation hazardous. Ferry accident is occurring frequently. At least 25 river transports including two ferries are reported to have run aground in the Padma and Jamuna recently.

Water experts told UNB that due to the dehydrational impact of the Farakka barrage, most rivers in Bangladesh are facing serious navigation problem besides an acute water crisis, specially in the northern and southern regions.

BANDARBUN, Jan 12: The

Local Government Council of

Bundarbun hill district has dis-

tributed Taka 22 lakh for so-

cio-economic development of

the poverty-stricken people of

district self-reliant, the

amount distributed toward

building of houses, purchasing

of cows and goats as well as

While completing the dis-

tribution, a meeting was held

here on December 30, chaired

by the Convenor of Religious

and Social Welfare Committee

of the Local Government

Council, Maulana Khalilur

the upliftment of the socio-

economic condition of the

people will solve the unem-

ployment problem of the dis-

trict, said Saching Prue Zerry

the Chairman of the council.

who was present there as chief

guest. If we work together sin-

cerely towards upliftment of

socio-economic condition, the

prevailing burning problem

unemployment will be solved,

lack of necessary patronisa

tion, consultation and initia

Another report adds: Due to

The projects taken up for

To make the people of this

the district, officials said.

poultry birds.

Rahman.

. The crisis deepened with the expiry of the Indo-Bangladesh water sharing agreement in May 1988 and unilateral withdrawal of water by India. Since than several Dhaka-Delhi water sharing talks have so far failed to reach

a fresh agreement. Officials said, about 9 to 10 feet water is needed for smooth ferry movement in the two rivers but the water level now fell to 6-7 feet. Water Development Board

sources told UNB that the Jamuna was flowing at 3.30 metre at Nagarbari point at present against 3.94 metres in the last dry season. The water level is falling by

six centimetre a day at Nagarbari and the navigation may be stopped before the peak period of current dry season if the recession trend continues, officials feared Moreover, water conserva-

tion capacity of the rivers has reduced due to massive deforestation, increasing rate of landslide, lack of re-excavation of river beds and loss of natural water resistant belt in Nepal resulting in massive siltation of the rivers. Unplanned embankment

Local body distributes Tk 22 lakh

for socio-economic uplift

From Our Correspondent

and turmeric has badly been

affected in the hill tracts

region. Which were the bright

and lucrative crops of the local

people of the country, ginger

and turmeric could be ex-

ported abroad if thousands and

Thieves take

away valuables

from shop in

Brahmanbaria

From Our Correspondent

theft committed at Choumo-

honi (Sultanpur) under Sadar

thana of Brahmanbaria district

tered into the shop of one

Humayan Kabir breaking open

the lock. They took away

diesel, kerosine, parts of rick

shaw and auto-rickshaw and

other goods worth about Taka

sixty thousand. Night Guard

Sadar thana in this regard

A case has been lodged with

Danu Miah is still missing

None has yet been nabbed.

It is alleged that thieves en

recently.

BRAHMANBARIA, Jan 12: A

Meeting the demand of the

tives, the cultivation of ginger thousands acres arable land for

construction for flood control and irrigation is also cited as another cause of loss of navigability of the rivers. Besides navigation, agriculture, pisciculture and environment are

being alarmingly affected.

Launch terminals at Nagarbari, Aricha, Daulatdia, Nolchia, Sirajgonj-Mawa and Charjanajat have been shifted several times for avoiding total disruption of transportation. Launch passengers have to walk down several kilometres now to board a water craft at Aricha, Daulatdia and Bhuapur launch ghats. And the Jamuna at Nagarbari and Aricha and the Padma at Daulatdia look like dead canals.

BIWTA with the help of three dredgers has dredged the Aricha-Daulatdia and Nagarbari channels at a cost of Tk four crore to keep ferries in operation. Meanwhile, goods trans-

portation from Chittagong and Mongla sea ports to country's northern parts has hit snags due to shipping problems. Oil and other goods transportation to the Jamuna fertilizer factory at Jamalpur and to the Baghabari oil depot in Pabna is learnt to have affected ad-

Primary education in the district is being hampered due to lack of required number of schools and necessary appli-According to district pri-

mary education office sources, there are only 1956 government primary schools, but the number of villages is 4032. The schools cover one third villages only.

growing gingers and turmeric

would not be lying fallow

Growing of ginger and

turmeric could play a vital role

in accelerating the upliftment

of the socio-economic condi-

tion of the people of this re-

gion, if patronisation, ar-

rangement for loan and fair

price of the crops could be as-

sured, said local leaders and

The maximum lands of the

Rangamati, Khagrachhari and

Bundarbun are down wards

and covered with hard-soils

growing ginger and turmeric,

son ginger is sold hardly be-

tween Taka 3-4 per kilogram

get a buyer", said Bipuleswar

ginger and turmeric cultivation

on an area of 5.0 acres in

"The sale proceeds of gin

ger and turmeric even do not

cover the production and

transportation cost for which

we have been discouraged in

growing these crops", said

Rabi Sankar Chakma.

"During the harvesting sea-

said the agronomists.

Belaichhari thana.

hill districts of

social workers.

three

A survey conducted by some welfare activists revealed that there is no government primary school in 2076 villages of the greater Pabna district. According to statistical re-

port, there are 167 government primary school in Pabna sadar against 326 villages, 163 schools in Bera thana against 225 villages, 105 schools in Santhia thana against 224 villages, 113 schools against 226 villages in Sujanagar thana 125 schools in Iswardi thana against 251 villages, 99 schools in Atghoria thana against 210 villages, 85 scho-ols in Faridpur thana against 198 villages. 119 schools in Chantmohar thana against 256 villages, 56 scho-ols Vangura thana against 112

About 214 schools in Serajganj sadar thana against 321 villages, 58 schools; in Chowhali thana against 85 villages, 142 schools against 225 villages in Belkuchi thana, 219 primary schools in Shajadpur thana against 311 villages, 108 schools in Ullapara against 253 villages, 93 schools against 168 villages in Tarash thana, 89 schools in Kamarkhand against 202 villages and 69 schools in Kazipur thana against 176 villages.

As a result, a large number of children of those villages are being deprived of primary ed-

Relief Ministry

urged to supply

relief materials

to storm-hit areas SYLHET, Jan 12: District Administration and Non Government Organisations (NGOs) at a joint meeting on

Sunday urged the Relief

Ministry to immediately supply

relief materials to the storm-

hit people, reports UNB. Presided over by the Deputy Commissioner MA Latif, the meeting was attended, among others, by local MP, Khandaker Abdul Malek, representatives of various NGOs, Journalists

and local elites. The meeting, held at the DC's conference room appealed to the authorities for which are very congenial for relief items like food, warm cloths, tent and grants for building houses in an emergency basis.

About 90 per cent of dweand sometimes it's difficult to lling houses had been damaged in five villages at Ranikhai Chakma, a grower who has got Union of Companigoni thana by hailstorm recently.

Settlement to Dec 3 issue demanded

SAVAR, Jan 12: The agi tated students of Jahan girnagar University on Sunday staged a total siege demanding the settlement to the December 3 issue, reports

the university had recommended expulsion of two students on charges of misbebaviour with a hall provost on December 3, while the stu dents had been demanding decision in favour of the stu dents in the syndicate.

The disciplinary council of

The students became agitated following the syndicate meeting last night that did not pass any decision on the issue. The on-going honours ex-

aminations of different years and regular classes were not held and students obstructed the regular playing of university buses. An emergency syndicate

meeting has been convened tomorrow to discuss the situa-

Fog hampers movement of transports

PATUAKHALI, Jan 12 Heavy fog is persisting throughout the district including coastal belt till 10 am for last seven days resulting feeble visibility and inconvenience to the movement of river vassals, reports UNB.

Thick fog is hampering ferry services on Barisal-Patuakhali route causing suffering to the passengers. River and road communications remain suspended till 10 am.

Normal life in seven thanas of the district is being affected due to persisting fog. Ricksh awpullers and day labourers including boatmen are the worst sufferers. Extraction of date juice

from date trees has also been suffering setback due to fogy wether in the region.

A procession was brought out here on Thursday demanding the withdrawal of the transfer order of Dr Md Mohsin, surgery consultant of Patuakhali Modernised Hos-

Dr Mohsin has recently been transferred and replaced by Dr Habíbur Rahman.

The procession was jointly organised by local Chawkbazar Traders Society, New Market Small Traders Society and Bastuhara Federation of the district unit.

After the procession a rally was held in which the speakers alleged that some interested quarters made the transfer order in favour of Dr Habibur Rahman. They said Dr Mohsin was a skilled surgeon and a dedicated personality. They demanded the withdrawal of the transfer order without further delay.

Tk 95,000 interest-free loan distributed

MAIJDEE COURT, Jan 12 The Social Welfare Department of Chatkhil thana of the district disbursed Taka 95 thousand interest free loan to run small business units, purchase rickshaw, poultry and piscicul ture, reports UNB.

The loan distributed by the chief guest Advocate Salauddin Kamran (MP) through a ceremonial function arranged at the Mohammedpur Social Welfare Community Hall.

Presided over by Local UP Chairman Md Atigullah, Chatkhil thana TND Karim Gazi, local elite and high officials of Social Welfare Depar-tment spoke on the occasion. Official sources said during

last two years the programme was successfully implemented in the area with a saving of about Taka 80 thousand by the people after the repayment of the loans. The chief guest called upon the people of the area to utilise

the loan properly urged to make the tree planting, sanitation, education and family planning programme a suc-In the absence of repair and proper maintenance many roads in the district have be-

come unfit for movement of

vehicles as well as pedestrians.

· It may be mentioned that there are 74 km of pucca roads in the district and 26 km of railway tracks. The communication between thana headquarters and the district town remained bad for several

The 6 km long bus route of Daganbhuiyan-Baserhut is lying in a deplorable condition since

The Chaumuhani-Maijdee, Kankhirhat-Senbag, Sonaimuri, Sonapur-Charbata, Chandragani-Abirpara, Maijdee-Odarhat, Maijdee

Khalifarhat, Rajganj-Banglaba-

zar roads are lying bad as cracks and potholes have developed at many points. The journey from Haliya and Nizumdip to the district headquarters is also time killing and troublesome.

Moreover, the traffic jam at Chaumuhani commercial centres has been creating problems for a long time. Work on the diversion, road is yet to start to remove the major communication problem of the Local leaders have urged

the concerned authorities to take necessary scheme to improve the communication system of the district without further delay.



BARGUNA: The teachers of non-government primary schools brought out a procession recently for - Star photo implementation of their 5-point demand.

Inadequate facilities make life miserable at Naogaon Town

From A Correspondent

NAOGAON, Jan 12: Absence of proper drainage system, pitiable condition of roads, inadequate street lights, shortage of accommodation, lack of proper sanitary arrangement, mosquito menace, erratic power supply and transport problems, have made the life of the residents of the district miserable.

Most of the roads at the town are narrow and uneven. Potholes and cracks have developed on many points of the roads. The road from Alu-Patti to Sultanpur, Dab-Patti Road, Hotel-Patti Road, Post Office Para Road are in pitiable condition The absence of proper

drainage system and lack of proper maintenance at the town causing great inconveniences to the people. The unplanned pucca drains in some areas of the town have developed cracks and holes and these drains remain filled with filthy and water.

Garbages are not cleared authorities throw wastage into regularly. Mosquito menace has increased at an alarming proportion creating untold suffering to the people. Acute shortage of accom-

modation has created another problem. Construction of new residences is not sufficient in proportion to the increasing number of population. Most of the street lights at

the municipal areas have no bulbs. Some areas of the town plunge into darkness giving ample advantages for the antisocial activities.

Old cloth and old hardware shops on both sides of the Naogaon Bridge, create problems for the pedestrians. No bus ply from Santahar to Naogaon due to dispute be-

tween the bus workers of Naogaon and Bogra. Passengers have been suffering much as they travel from Santahar to Naogaon on foot or by rickshaws. This type of situation happens regularly, passengers informed. The authorities concerned fails to take any proper step to stop the harassment of the people, it is reported.

A bridge on Naogaon-Bogra Road is under construction for more than five years at Morol in Nosratpur of Bogra district.

People urge the higher authorities to look into the mat ter. It can be mentioned here that it is the only road which connects the capital.

Wastages contaminating river water

The Joypurhat Sugar Mills

the river small Jamuna. As a result, the water of the river became polluted. Four lakh people are directly affected by this and fishes die by for the pollution. Matsajibi Samabaya Samity took lease of the river for this season at a cost of Tk.80,000. About 25,000 fishermen have no work. The government has taken up steps to increase fish production, but due to the activities of the mill management, the water of the fifty mile long river became contaminated. There is acute shortage of fish in the market of Naogaon.

KURIGRAM : Education Secretary Shafiqui Alam speaking at a cultural contest function held at Rangpur government college premises recently. - Star photo