

Saifur for more dynamism in police admn

MOULVIBAZAR, Jan 18: Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman today called for bringing about more dynamism in the police administration to establish rule of law through the best use of new democratic system, reports UNB.

"Democratic system and the rule of law are inseparable. While democratic system is a pre-requisite to establish rule of law, the rule of law is in turn indispensable for the continuation of democratic system," he said while inaugurating the police line at Moulvibazar.

The function was also addressed by opposition whip Azizur Rahman MP, Pura Chairman Syed Mohsin Ali and local BNP leaders Advocate Abdul Khaleque and Advocate Mujibur Rahman Mujib.

Referring to the misrule of the past autocratic regime, Rahman said that during nine years of misrule of the past government, there was degeneration in the entire administrative system, including the police administration.

"The present democratic government has regenerated the administrative system by infusing dynamism into the administration," he said.

Earlier, the Finance Minister inaugurated the expansion work of the district judge's office at Moulvibazar.

Fund crisis keeps Chalan Beel Project incomplete

From Our Correspondent

NATORE, Jan 18: The work on Chalan Beel Project is likely to remain incomplete for want of fund, it is learnt.

The work on the Taka 44 crore project was started in 1976 and it was stopped in 1984 for financial crisis.

Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) started the work to control flood and extraction of water. The Chalan Beel Project includes areas in Natore, Pabna, Sirajganj and Bogra districts. World Food Programme (WFP) and International Development Agency (IDA) were due to finance the project.

The project includes construction of 125-mile-long flood control embankment, digging of 187-mile-long canal, building of 24 regulators, 250 sluice gates, 55 bridges and culverts.

One hundred twenty-three miles of flood control embankment, 65 miles of canal, 12 regulators, 93 sluice gates and three bridges were completed till 1984, a BWDB source informed.

The work on the project was stopped following a dispute over constructing a regulator at the mouth of the river Baral near Charghat thana of Rajshahi, the BWDB claimed.

At the beginning of the 1993-94 financial year, that Board expected to start the incomplete works of the project in 1994. But the works are unlikely to be started this year for fund crisis. Thousands of farmers of the beel area under the scheme have been suffering much for keeping the project incomplete.

The completion of the project could help produce an additional amount of foodgrains worth about Taka nine crore on 2.14 lakh acres of land under the project area.

The World Bank, however, assured rehabilitation of the project with the financial assistance of certain donor agency.

The implementation of the rehabilitation programme needs about Taka 10 crore but no donor agency has yet agreed to finance the project.

The rehabilitation work includes construction of 426-kilometre-long embankment, digging of 356 km of canal, construction of 16 regulators, 57 sluice gates, 171 km road, four bridges and 47 culverts, it is learnt.

The BWDB has taken up a decision to start the rehabilitation work with the surplus fund of the project in FCD. But the Board will not be able to complete the work.

Farmers of the project area have urged the donor agencies and the government to assist the project immediately in the greater interest of the country.

Work on two big projects in greater Rajshahi region is likely to be completed by the current financial year.

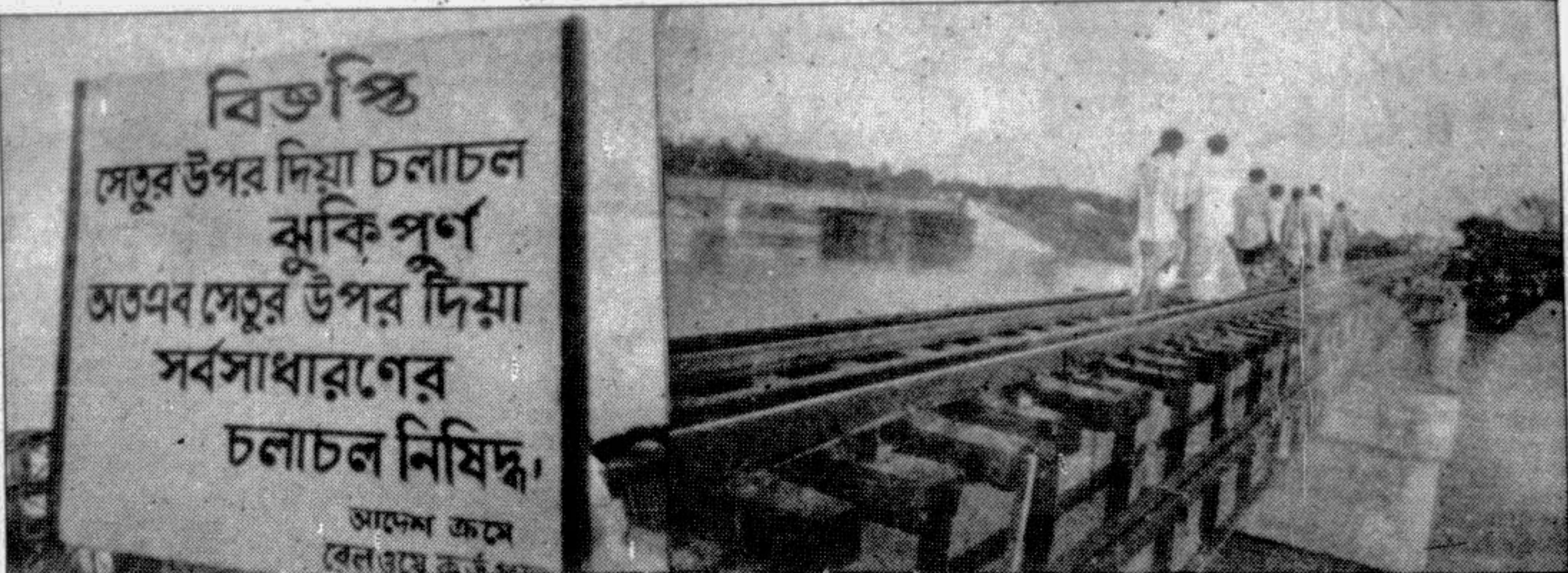
About Taka 194 crore will be spent for implementation of the projects, official sources said.

The BWDB took up the projects in 1986 with a view to extending irrigation facility and controlling flood in Rajshahi region.

After the completion of the projects, additional crops worth of about Taka 22 crore will be produced on 85,000 hectares of land.

The works on these projects are now going on in full swing at sadar thana of Natore district, Paba, Puthia, Durgapur and Baghmara thanas of Rajshahi district and some areas of Naogaon and Chapainawabganj districts.

The projects include construction of 18 water control bodies, 40 sluice gates, 64 km-long embankment, 14 water extraction regulators, 18 kms of road and digging of 235 km long canal.



RAILWAY BRIDGE AT TONGI: Many people use it to cross the river Turag risking the life. The Railway Department has prohibited the use of the bridge hoarding a signboard, but who cares. — Star photo

Women's coop society activities attract Chinese team members

GAZIPUR, Jan 18: The visiting eight-member delegation of the Communist Party of China (CPC), led by Wen Jiabao, visited Dighirchala village in Gazipur district on Saturday, reports UNB.

The delegation members saw various income generating and development activities of Dighirchala Women's Cooperative Society, a project of Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB).

They went round different sections of the Society, including stalls displaying handicrafts, garments, dry and sweet food items, bamboo and cane works as well as poultry farms, fisheries, and vegetables gardens.

The delegation expressed their satisfaction and pleasure to witness these income generating and development activities of the society. These activities, they said, would play a vital role in alleviating poverty of the rural people and in improving their socio-economic condition.

Wishing more economic development in Bangladesh and more successes for the women's cooperative society, the members of the delegation said

China is a sincere and true friend of Bangladesh and will extend all possible help and cooperation for its overall development.

The BRDB, which is engaged in socio-economic development of the rural poor, including small and marginal farmers, so far organised 4,000 women's cooperatives across the country, and Dighirchala is one of them.

This society of 105 members started its activities in 1984 with a capital of Taka 200 only. Now its capital is Taka 1,16,207.

The members of the society are engaged in activities like poultry, bamboo and cane works, beef-fattening, goat rearing, tailoring, fishery and small trade.

Besides, they have family planning, literacy and health-care programmes in which they have achieved commendable success. The rate of literacy among the society members is 100 per cent and that of family planning 98 per cent.

The BNP Office Secretary Afzar Ahmed Siddiqui and central leader Akmal Ibne Yusuf accompanied the delegation.

District roundup

NOAKHALI
"BNP stands by the people at all time"

Jan 18: Communications Minister Oli Ahmed said, BNP stands by people at the time of distress and adversities for which people entrusted this party with the sacred responsibility to translate their hopes and aspirations into reality, reports BSS.

The minister was addressing a big public meeting at Saikat Mohavidyalay ground here recently when was presided over by Khairul Anam Selim, local MPs, Salahuddin Quamran and Mohammad Shahjahan spoke on the occasion.

Oli Ahmed said, the government of Begum Khaleda Zia has taken the oath to ensure equitable justice to all and go for all-out development activities throughout the country.

He laid the foundation stone of Chhabta Saikat College. The minister also laid the foundation of new building of Noakhali Bar association and inaugurated the Bar Library-Judge Court Link Road.

Speaking on the occasion Oli Ahmed said, the government is committed to establish the rule of law in the country.

SAVAR
Minor girl killed in road accident

Jan 18: A minor girl of class five was killed by a speeding truck near Savar Cantonment Public School on Thursday, reports UNB.

According to witnesses, the ill-fated girl, Kamrunnahar Milla (11) while crossing the road was hit by an Aricha bound truck at 7 am. She was rushed to the Savar CMH and succumbed there soon after.

The driver, however, managed to flee with the vehicle. A case has been filed with the police.

Following the incident, the local agitated students damaged four vehicles.

BARISAL
BWDB implements 24 uplift projects

Jan 18: Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) has been implementing 24 projects in Bakerganj and Hizla thanas of Barisal district involving a cost of Taka 2,69,50,000 during the fiscal year, reports BSS.

According to an official source, the projects involved financial assistance from International Development Association (IDA). The projects included construction of five kilometres of road, 10 sluice gates, seven inlets, upgrading of flood embankment and re-examination of 23 kilometres of canal.

Meanwhile, on an average, 50 per cent work have already been completed, the source added. Work on these projects is expected to be completed within this fiscal year.

SATKHIRA
One killed, 18 hurt in road mishap

Jan 18: A young man was killed and 18 others were injured when a bus, carrying a picnic party, overturned on Satkhira-Jessore highway at Kamrali area on Thursday morning, says UNB.

The dead was identified as Ibrahim (20) of Paikpara in Iklaraha thana.

Witnesses said, the over loaded bus turned turtle on the road while the driver tried to give passage to a truck coming from opposite direction.

CHUADANGA
Attack on Ittefaq office protested

Jan 18: A protest meeting of the local journalists was held at the Gano Tathya office Saturday against the attack on Ittefaq office and killing the staff of the newspaper by the miscreants, reports UNB.

Presided over by M M Alauddin, it was also addressed by Chittaranjan Chitu, Azad Malita, Tasrul Alam Malik, M Haq Makhon, S Selim and Sharifuddin Hasu.

The speakers demanded punishment of the killers and called upon the government to ensure security of the working journalists and other staff of the newspaper.

CHANDPUR
Warm clothes given to poor

Jan 18: The new Central Rotary Club, Chandpur, distributed warm clothes among 150 poor and distressed people of Char Eacholy a neglected village of the sadar thana last week, reports UNB.

According to the club sources president of the Chandpur Press Club, Quamruzzaman Chowdhury distributed the clothes.

Mentionable, that biting cold, including chilly weather has been prevailing in the district for the last one week. Poor and shelterless people are the worst sufferers.

Cooperation in telecom sector underscored

GAZIPUR, Jan 18: The importance of developing the telecommunications sector by combining the experience and expertise of the SAARC member countries for consolidating regional cooperation was underscored Saturday at the opening of a training course here, reports UNB.

Fazlur Rahman, Chairman, Bangladesh Telephone and Telecommunication Board (BTB), inaugurating the course, said, "The influence of telecommunications in consolidating the concept of regional cooperation is well recognised."

The two-week training course, being participated by experts from the seven SAARC member countries, got underway Saturday, at the Telecom Staff College in Gazipur.

The training programme on the NEAX-61E digital exchange system developed by NEC is the first such training session

Swanirbhar adarsha gram set up

BARISAL, Jan 18: A Shahid Zia Swanirbhar Adarsha Gram has been established on 18 acres of land at Charbadna mauza under sadar thana of Barisal district on Tuesday under the auspices of Jatiya Bastuhara Samity, reports BSS.

A total of 531 destitute families will be rehabilitated in this village in phases.

A meeting was held in this connection with Abdur Rahman Bepari in the chair.

It was addressed among others by Mujibur Rahman Sarwar MP, Mir Mujibur Rahman, TNO, Ebaudul Huq, Abu Bakar Siddique and Golam Kibria Selim.

Mujibur Rahman MP laid the foundation of this village as chief guest. He urged all concerned to come forward to implement the 19-point programme of late President Ziaur Rahman.

Another report says: Gournadi thana police recovered one country made gun and four rounds of ammunition from village Barthi under the thana on Wednesday last, a police source said.

Besides, Mehendigonj thana police recovered one pipe gun, five rounds of ammunition and a bayonet from Gauria area of the thana on Monday, the source added.

Police arrested one Abdul Razzak Talukder from Gauria in this connection. Police lodged two separate cases.

A meeting was held in the conference room of Deputy Commissioner of Barisal Thursday in connection with the "Education Week-94."

The meeting was attended by Mamtaz Uddin, Deputy Commissioner, Barisal, as chief guest.

Presided over by Md Sirajul Huq, Principal, Begum Tojazzal

Hossain Manik Mia Mahila College, the meeting was attended by educationists, the elite of the town and persons interested in education.

A day-long training course on computer use for the publication of results for college Principals was held Saturday in the Government. Brojomohon University College premises.

Chaired by Prof Md Makbul Uddin Ahmed, Principal of the college the training was imparted by Prof Md Hasan Waiz, Chairman, Jessore Education Board.

Sixty-nine Principals from different government and non-government colleges of the districts of Barisal, Bhola, Jhalakati and Pirojpur attended this course.

The aim of this training was to publish the HSC results correctly through the use of computer.

By-pass road to be constructed

RAJSHAHI, Jan 18: Communications Minister Oli Ahmed Saturday formally laid the foundation of Rajshahi city by-pass road at Naodapara to be built at a cost of about Taka 50 crore, reports BSS.

The 20-kilometre long by-pass road will be constructed from Belpukur, 18th km of Rajshahi-Natore Road to Kashiadanga, third km of Rajshahi-Chapainawabganj road. The road to be constructed at the north side of

Rajshahi city will cross Naodapara, seventh km of Rajshahi-Naogaon road.

The road, when completed, will eliminate traffic jam in Rajshahi city and fulfil long cherished demand of the city residents.

Addressing a public meeting at Naodapara Primary School ground on the occasion, the Communications Minister said the BNP government was carrying out massive road infrastructure development programme throughout the country by utilising public money properly.

During some past governments, public money was defalcated and used for building own property, he said, adding "now people have to choose who works for the welfare of people and the country."

The Communications Minister said work for widening the road from Rajshahi stadium to Rajshahi airport would start by the next month.

Oli reiterated the government's decision saying foundation of Jamuna Bridge would be laid on March 20. A comprehensive road development programme worth Taka 1,500 crore was being implemented in the northern region of the country, he added.

The meeting was also addressed by State Minister for Land, Md Kabir Hossain, Begum Lutfunnesa Hossain, MP. BNP nominated candidate for the post of mayor of Rajshahi City Corporation

Mizanur Rahman Minu, Divisional Commissioner M Aminul Islam, Additional Chief Engineer of Roads and Highways Department Samsul Haq, president of Rajshahi district Jatiyatobadi Muktiyoddha Dal Md Monsur, general secretary of Rajshahi District Motor Sramik Union Abdul Sattar and BNP leader Ershad Ali and Saiful Islam Marshal.

Kabir Hossain said a city road from Kalpana Cinema hall to sericulture factory would be widened soon.

15 passengers hurt in road mishap

FARIDPUR, Jan 18: At least 15 persons were injured, two of them seriously, when a Khulna bound passenger coach from Dhaka met an accident Saturday morning at Shibrampur seven miles from here on Dhaka-Khulna highway, reports BSS.

According to Kotwali police, when the coach tried to overtake another vehicle, it rolled down into a ditch. The injured were rushed to Faridpur General Hospital where two were admitted and the rest were released after first aid.

The road condition from Daulatdia ferry ghat to Jhenidah is in poor condition because the whole eighty-mile-long road is under reconstruction.

NATORE: The vendors have occupied the road causing sufferings to the pedestrians. — Star photo

Edn key to development

NETRAKONA, Jan 18: Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda on Thursday said, the government had taken up a far reaching programme to turn all the citizens of the country educated with a view to organising them into skilled human resources for development, reports BSS.

The minister was addressing the foundation laying ceremony of Latifa Abbas Dakhel Mahila Madrasah here.

Barrister Huda said, our desired development would be possible only when the entire population of the country would be educated.

In this connection, he referred to the various initiatives of the government for the spread of education, particularly for the women.

He said, Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia had made education free for the girls for the spread of women education in the country.

Whip of the Jatiya Sangsad M A Karim, Abu Abbas MP, among others, also spoke on

the occasion. The information minister also addressed the conference of homeopathy practitioners arranged by Netrakona branch of Homeo Professionals Association.

Speaking on the occasion Barrister Huda urged the homeopathy practitioners to acquire necessary knowledge and experience in promoting homeopathy system of treatment and gaining the confidence of the people.

He said, Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman had given importance to village doctors and homeopathy treatment to ensure health facilities for all.

He urged the homeopathy practitioners to put in their sincere efforts for the spread of homeopathy system of treatment for the welfare of the common masses.

Barrister Huda, in his busy schedule on Thursday also distributed awards among the Mukul Fauz members and visited the local press club.

Importance to poverty alleviation given

COMILLA, Jan 18: State Minister for Relief, Harun-al-Rashid Saturday formally inaugurated the 'food for work' programme with own resource of the government for 1993-94 by opening the reconstruction work of 2.25 kilometre Galmathan-Domorja road at Chuara union under Comilla district, says BSS.

Addressing a public meeting on the occasion at Chuara M M High School ground the state minister said the present government laid importance on poverty alleviation, employment and rural infrastructure development.

He said one lakh five thousand five hundred metric tons of wheat worth about Taka 71 crore 74 lakh had been allocated for implementation of about five thousand five hundred projects under the programme for current fiscal year.

Presided over by Kotwali thana BNP president Rafique Uddin Chowdhury the meeting was addressed, among others, by Begum Rabeya Chowdhury MP, local Poursabha Chairman, Kamaluddin Chowdhury and Public Prosecutor Advocate Abdul Latif.

The state minister called upon all to help successful implementation of people-oriented programmes of the government.

Earlier, the state minister addressed a divisional workshop on implementation of 'food for work programme' at the conference room of the deputy commissioner.

Notes from Mymensingh

From Our Correspondent:
MYMENSINGH, Jan 18: Vice-Chancellor of BAU Professor Dr Shah Mohammad Farouk called upon the Rover Scouts of the Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) to uphold the glorious history of the Scout movement dedicating themselves to the services of the humanity.

Speaking at a function organised by the BAU Rover Scouts held at the Teacher-Student Centre, Chief Patron Vice-Chancellor Dr Farouk stressed the need for punctuality, discipline and character building of the Rover Scouts who are the students of this university following scout ideals.

Later, the Vice-Chancellor gave certificates to the Rover Scouts for their meritorious work and social services.

"Apply theoretical knowledge in reality"

The Vice-Chancellor of BAU Professor Dr Shah Mohammad Farouk said that there was no alternative in statistical method in the field of higher agricultural research. He stressed the need for application of theoretical knowledge in reality.

Professor Farouk was speaking as chief guest at the concluding day of a three-week-long higher training course on 'statistical methods in research' arranged by the Graduate Training Institute (GTI) of the Bangladesh Agricultural University.

The Vice-Chancellor said that the application of subjects like, mathematics and statistics are expanded from agriculture to detective branch for the benefit of the people.

Later, the Vice-Chancellor distributed certificates among participants of the higher training course.

Field trip reviewed

The BAU Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dr Shah Mohammad Farouk said that if the students of today gain love and affection from the farmers of Bangladesh they would get due honour from the nation as agriculturist.

Professor Farouk was addressing the students as chief guest after their return from the field trip at a review function organized by the Department of Agricultural Extension and Teachers Training held at Zaimul Abedin auditorium of the university.



CHANDPUR: Md Golam Kibria, DC of the district inaugurating the newly constructed Kadamtala Primary School recently. — Star photo