

National

Conference of university, college teachers assoc held at BAU

AGRI-VARSITY (Mymensingh), Dec 3: Bangladesh College University Teachers Association (BCUTA) of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) unit held a conference with its president Professor Dr AM Muazzam Hossain in the chair.

Held at the BAU Faculty of Agricultural Economics Gallery Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr Shah M Farouk was the chief guest at the inaugural function of the conference while former education advisor and Vice-Chancellor of Jahangirnagar University Professor Zillur Rahman Siddiqui was the special guest.

Among others spoke on the occasion were Professor M Akhteruzzaman, Professor Dr Md Monsurul Amin, Professor Dr A M Farouk, Professor Dr Noor Md Talukdar and Mr Atiar Rahman Mollah.

Two papers educational problems: Bangladesh Perspective and Terrorism in the campus were presented by Professor Dr Syed Sakhawat Hossain, Dr Md Sultanuddin Bhuyian and Farid Ahmad.

BRDB starts adult literacy programme

BHOLA, Dec 3: Bangladesh Rural Development Board has taken up a programme for the adult education under its RD-12 Project in the Lalmoni thana in the current financial year, says UNB.

According to the official sources, under this programme about 400 adult members of their local samity will be imparted education in the next three years.

In this connection, 20 adult centres were opened and 20 teachers have already been appointed.

The Teachers' Training Programme was inaugurated by the Deputy Commissioner of district recently.

He said under the project RD-12, the adult literacy programme of the BRDB will help greatly in eradicating the curse of illiteracy.

He also called upon the affluent section of the people to come forward to help set up more adult education centres to eradicate illiteracy from the society.

One killed in road mishap

SIRAJGANJ, Dec 3: A small trader was killed and three others were injured on Thursday night when a truck fell into a roadside ditch in sadar thana on Sirajganj-Beluchi road, says UNB.

The dead was identified as Sujabat Ali, 55, a small trader of sadar thana.

Police said the loaded truck skidded off the road at Baitara village at 11 pm, injuring Sujabat who was travelling on the truck with the others while returning from a bazar in Beluchi.

Sujabat succumbed to his injuries early Friday morning at the General Hospital where he was admitted along with the other injured.

Police seized the truck but the driver was absconding.

Valuables, cash worth Tk 2.74 lakh robbed in Sylhet

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, Dec 3: Armed dacoits looted valuables and money in cash worth about a Taka two lakh 74 thousand from a house at Nawab road of Kajaish area of Sylhet town early on Tuesday.

A gang of armed dacoits attacked the house of Yaor Ahmed. They tied up all the inmates of the house and took away the valuables and money in cash and managed to escape from the house safely.

A case in this connection had been registered with the police. Eight persons were later taken into custody for interrogation by the police apprehending their alleged involvement with the robbery incident.

One killed in Manikganj

MANIKGANJ, Dec 3: A school teacher was hacked to death and his daughter was seriously injured when a gang of dacoits swooped on a village in Dhamrai thana in Dhaka district on Friday midnight, reports UNB.

The dead was identified as Sunil Kumar Pal, 42, teacher of the government primary school in the thana.

The injured, Shukla, student of Dhamrai Government College was rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

They beat the inmates and looted goods worth taka over one lakh.



RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY: "Youth Law Forum", an organisation of law research centre of Rajshahi University accorded a reception to David Cheal Shelje, local representative of International Donor Agency "Ford Foundation" at Momtaz Uddin Arts gallery recently. Cheal in his speech congratulated the young law students for their effort in publishing the monthly magazine. Prof Badar Uddin and Acting Secretary of Youth Law Forum, Hasibul Alam Pradhan were among others who addressed the function.

— Star photo

Irregular power supply Industries incur losses worth Tk 100 cr in northern dists

From Our Correspondent

DINAJPUR, Dec 3: The life in Rajshahi Division have been paralysed by the continued power crisis. Many mills and factories have already been closed down. The irrigation sector has been hardest hit affecting cultivation of the winter crops.

Many industries and factories in Panchagarh, Thakurgaon, Dinajpur, Nilphamari, Rangpur, Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, Gaibandha, Joypurhat, Bogra, Sirajganj, Pabna, Natore, Naogaon, Rajshahi and Chapainawabganj are on the verge of closure due to frequent disruption of electricity supply. As a result, the price of rice and *dag* are also on gradual increase.

The biggest industrial town of the region, Bogra, is the

worst hit. Here the requirement of electricity is 15 megawatt, whereas the supply is only four megawatt. Dinajpur, the requirement of electricity is 10 megawatt whereas the supply is only three megawatt.

In Rangpur, the supply is four megawatts whereas the demand is 12 megawatt. In Pabna, the supply is three megawatt against the demand of nine megawatt and in Rajshahi supply of electricity is four megawatt in place of a demand of 12 megawatt.

The total demand of electricity in 16 districts is 55 to 60 megawatt. But the authorities concerned can supply 16 to 20 megawatt which is also irregular.

The Private Industries

Owners' Samity of the northern zone incurred a loss of Taka 100 crore due to irregular power supply during the last three months, its was informed by the samity.

The Power Development Board (PDB) in an advertisement published in national daily newspapers recently, hoped that the crisis will be over by June 1995.

Till the grid comes into operation the Saidpur and Thakurgaon Diesel Power Station (DPS) are the only sources of electricity in eight districts of Dinajpur and Rangpur zones. The three units of Saidpur DPS are now generating six megawatt of electricity and three units of Thakurgaon DPS generates four megawatt of electricity.

Meghna erosion renders 500 families homeless

MAJDEE COURT (Noakhali), Dec 3: The devastating erosion of the river Meghna rendered 500 families homeless in 4 unions of Hatiyatha thana in the last three months, says UNB.

The erosion which started in early 1970 has so far rendered at least 60,000 people homeless. Almost 40 per cent of the area of Hatiyatha thana covering an area of 400 square kims went into the river.

A vast area of cultivable land and many institutions have been completely washed away.

The erosion continued in east, west and northern portion of the thana. Several markets, vast cultivable land and dwelling houses of Sukchar and Nalchira unions are being washed away.

The affected people, mostly farmers, fishermen and day labourers are passing their days in sub-human condition.

Of the affected people, 15,000 have been living in truck made mini sheds on the WDB embankment and 15,000 have left Hatiyatha and migrated to other districts.

The inhabitants of the Hatiyatha island are facing natural calamities like cyclone, flood, tornado, tidal bore every year incuring huge losses.

Local MP Prof Oliullah urged the government to take immediate steps to rehabilitate the shelterless people. He also urged to take up a comprehensive plan to stop erosion of the river.

BADC distributes 75,000 saplings in Barisal region

BARISAL, Dec 3: Bangladesh Agriculture Extension Department (BADC) distributed 75,000 saplings of timber and fruit bearing trees among the small and marginal farmers of seven southern districts free of cost in the last tree plantation season, says BSS.

The districts covered by this programme are: Barisal, Pirojpur, Jhalakati, Bhola, Patuakhali, Barguna and Gopalganj.

According to an official source, government sanctioned a sum of Tk. 7.50 lakh for the implementation of this programme in these districts under the southern district development programme this season.

A total of 18,700 small and marginal farmers have been benefited in 400 unions of the districts.

The saplings included coconuts, jackfruits, guavas, mehagani and rain trees. The department also raised 20,000 saplings each of mehagani, rain tree, shishu, chambal and segoon and 5,000 saplings each of jackfruit, jalpati, neem and arjun in 16 nurseries of the districts, the source said.

Government sanctioned Tk 5.60 lakh for the production of four lakh saplings of these varieties in the nurseries of seven districts.

Dairy farm in Jessore, a good example

From Our Correspondent