

AGRI-VARSITY (Mymensingh): Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr Shah Muhammad Farouk delivering his speech as chief guest at the concluding day and prize distribution ceremony of the Science and Technology Week organised by the Mymensingh Zilla School recently.

### Touch stone worth Tk 20 lakh stolen

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, Jan 26: An image of touch stone worth about Taka 20 lakh was stolen from Bamondanga under Sunderganj thana re-

A, daring burglary was committed few days back at the house of Rampriti. At dead of night alleged miscreant entered the house of Rampriti of village Bamondanga under Sunderganj thana broke open the grill and took away an image of cow made of touch stone.

Meanwhile, the elder son of house owner suddenly woke up chased the miscreant. He, however, was able to catch the miscreant. Finding no other alternatives the miscreant stabbed him with sharp weapon.

Meanwhile, the miscreant fled with the image. The victim was immediately removed to hospital in critical condition. A case was filed with Sunderganj Thana.

## Bus service remain suspended

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ Jan 26: Bus service in Sirajganj-Detkandi route remained suspended since Friday morning following feud among bus owners' association and bus workers association.

It is learnt that due to introduction of a new bus service (Prantik Paribahan) which the owners opposed while the workers tried to run the bus.

#### Law, order situation reviewed

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, Jan 26: The law and order situation in the district was reviewed in the monthly meeting of the district law and order committee held at the conference room of the Deputy Commissioner with Md. Fazlul Haque, District Magistrate in the chair last week.

M. Shahbuddin, Additional Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka Division attended the meeting. Besides, Md Matiur Rahman, Superintendent of Police, Md Sayeduzaman, Resident, Kishoreganj Press Club, Al-Haj Abu Taher Mia, Chairman, Kishoregani Pourashava, Md Abdus Saheed, Resident, Kishoreganj Chamber and Commerce, all TNOs and ASPs were also present in the meeting.

Some speakers expressed deep concern over the deterioration of law and order situation in the district especially the increasing in bus dacoity on Kishoreganj-Bhairab Road.

In his presidential speech the District Magistrate called upon the people from all walks of life to cooperate with the police in curbing the crimes from the society.

#### Sarbahara leader held

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, Jan 26: Police in a raid arrested a top leader of Purba Bangla Sarbahara Party from the house of Ayenuddin at village Safila in Kishoregani sadar thana last week. He was identified as Abdul Hamid of village Madhappur of Chuadanga district.

The raid was jointly conducted by Chuadanga police and Kishoreganj Sadar thana police. He was wanted in a number of cases like murder.

#### One killed in road mishap in Jhenidah

From Our Correspondent JHENIDAH, Jan 26: One person was killed and another was injured in a road accident near Tetultala, about 5 kilometres from Jhenidah

town recently. According to reports, a Jhenidah-bound passenger bus (Pabna Ba-246) collided with a motor cycle, (Jessore-A-4361) at about 4 pm. Atiar Rahman, 32, the driver of the motor cycle died on the spot and his associate Ali Reza, 30 received injuries. He was rushed to Jhenidah Sadar

College hospital. A case was filed with Jhenidah sadar thana and the body was sent to morgue. Police later seized the bus while it's driver managed to flee, police said.

# Fund crisis stalls afforestation programme in CHT

BANDARBAN, Jan 26: The afforestation activities in Bandarban, Rangamati and Khagrachhari hill districts are totally stopped due to lack of necessary fund, officials said. reports UNB.

There is also no guideline from the Forest Ministry or Directorate about afforestation in the three districts covering 10 per cent area of the country.

No positive result has also come out at the talks at different stages with various donor agencies about afforestation programme in the hill districts, it is learnt.

According to officials, at present the areas under afforestation in the three districts are less than 2 per cent while experts and donors suggested 20

BRAHMANBARIA, Jan 26:

The BDR jawans of Ka-

likachcha 23 battalion under

Sarail thana of the district

seized smuggled goods worth

about Taka 5 crore 19 lakh

28 thousand and 958 in sep-

arate anti-smuggling drives at

various points of the district

1995, but the smuggling are

out, the main smuggling

spots are: Brahmanbaria rail

station, Kuttapara bas stand.

Ashuganj railway station.

Champoknagar, Shahbazpur

highway bridge, Chandura bus

stand, Alinagar, Shingarbil,

Akhawra, Basnapur and Aza-

mpur from where the BDR

jawans of 23 battalion laun-

ching anti-smuggling drives

gled goods.

seized the maximum smug-

The seizures list included

Indian saree, wine, ganja.

pulse, phensidyle, medicine,

sugar, cosmetic, electronic

goods, cloth stick, spices,

spare parts, bicycle, rick-

shaw, motorspares, onion,

pens, matches, shaving bla-

According to a BDR hand-

during the last one year.

not being stop till now.

cent afforestation in the hill

Most of the hills in the districts are treeless as those were cut at random but sapling plantation was not done proportionately.

In fact, at present, about 2,000 forest officials are virtually jobless as the afforestation activities is totally stopped due to financial crisis. But Tk 5 crore is needed to pay their salaries.

The jhumia tribal people who used to work in afforestation programme have become jobless and they are passing their days in great hardship.

It is also learnt that most of the saplings planted in the last year have been destroyed due to lack of maintenance

Meanwhile, illegal timber traders are felling trees indiscriminately with the connivance of dishonest officials after the sundown causing serious ecological imbalance in the hill regions.

Local forest experts said the desertification process in the areas have already started due to the adverse effect of ecological imbalance adding weather and climate have also been changed in the treeless hills.

They said the government as well other non-government organisations should come forward for afforestation in the region or else. they warned " a serious natural disaster may take place in near future."

# Despite frequent raids smuggling across borders of Brahmanbaria increases

From Our Correspondent

des, steel plates, steel bowl, salt, eggs, mustard oil, coconut oil, hair oil, drug, shidur

According to BDR Commanding Officer (CO) of 23battalion. Major Soyed Ahmed Ali, they arrested 53 suspected smugglers during the anti-smuggling drives at bordering areas of the district and filed separate cases with respective police stations and also deposited all contraband at local customs

According to BDR official sources, acting on a tip-off, the BDR-men of Kaligachcha battalion launching antismuggling drives recovered a huge quantity of smuggled goods amounting to Taka 5,19,28,954 from bordering areas of the district during the last one year.

Of the total recovery of smuggled goods, at least incoming smuggled goods from India amounting to Taka 5,04,66,601 were recovered and out-going smuggled goods from Bangladesh worth about Taka 14,62,353 were

recovered during the last one

As a result, it is noticed that, a huge quantity of Indian smuggled goods are coming into the country from India. According to BDR hand-

out, it is learnt that the toll of smuggling are increasing month after month here as on January '95, the BDR-jawans recovered smuggled good worth about Taka 23.66,923 and later on December '95 they recovered smuggled goods worth about Taka 52,14,429 but the rampage of smuggler did not stop till now. Brahmanbaria thana police, acting on a secret information, seized Indian smuggled goods alongwith a private car near Sultanpur village on Brahmanbaria-Chittagong high way under sadar thana of the district. The smuggled goods included motor cycle spare parts worth about Taka two lakh. In this connection the police arrested four persons - Muazzam Hussain, Kuddus, Khalilur Rahman and the driver of the seized private car.

# Pabna pourashava spent Tk 7 cr for dev works

From Our Correspondent

PABNA, Jan 26 : An amount of Tk seven crore three lakh thirteen thousand nine hundred five has been spent towards the development of Pabna Pourashabha under the "Mid-Town Infrastructural Development Project" during last five financial years, it was gathered from official sources. Spending the said amount,

65 pucca roads having a total length of 7.297 km, 22 pucca drains having a total length of 23.411 km were constructed, installation of water-supply pipe-line having a length of 2.978 km. construction of 1800 sanitary latrines and clusters and construction of 22 culverts and cross-drains have been completed.

Of them, during the financial year 1994-95, as many as 18 bituminous carpeting roads having a total length of 352 kilometres, 15 pucca drains with a total length of 16.68 kilo-metres, 11 RCC- roads having a total suicide recently

length of 153 kilometres, 900 sanitary latrines and clusters were constructed at a total expenditure of Tk 2,19,06,632 Besides, during the finan-

cial year of 1993-94, five asphalted roads with a total length of 4.38 km, four RCC roads with a total length of 1.467 kilometres, seven pucca drains having a total length of 6.731 kilometres and 900 sanitary latrines and clusters were taken up for construction and completed

Moreover, four Box culverts of a total length of 42.50 metres, light crossdrains, one herring-bone-

#### Young man commits suicide

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, Jan 26: A 22-year old youngman named Nazrul of village Purba Purura in Katiadi thana committed

bond road with a length 228 kilometres, two markets over a total area of 362 kilometres etc. were also constructed at a total cost of Tk 2,76,43

During the year 1992-93. an amount of Tk 1.08 52.299 was spent towards the construction of 12 asphalted roads having a total length of 6.917 kilometres, three water-supply pipe-lines having a total length of 2.478 kilometres, one Peelkhana.

During the year 1991-92; as many as 15 Bituminus carpeting roads having a total length of 6.37 kilometres. one water supply pipeline with a length of 50 kilometres. 150 pucca dustbins 100 twin pit latrines and other works were completed at a total cost of Tk 99,56,476.

Various other development works were still being carried on within the Pabna Pourashaba under the said Project being financed by the World Bank.



SYLHET: Golam Mortuja, Mayor of Tower Hamlets Borough Council, UK, presently visiting Bangladesh, addressing at a reception accorded to him by the greater Sylhet Ganabadi Parishad recently. - Star photo | sion.

Unnatural deaths increasing in Satkhira

From Our Correspondent SATHKHIRA, Jan 26: The number of unnatural deaths have been increasing alarmingly in seven thanas of Satkhira district. The thanas

are Tala, Kalaroa, Assassuni, Kaliganj, Shyamnagar, Debhata and Sadar. According to police sources, a total of 673 per-

sons met unnatural death in seven thanas of the district in 1995. Of them 161 persons met unnatural death in Tala thana, 144 persons in Satkhira Sadar, 109 persons in Kalaroa, 74 persons in Kaliganj, 76 persons in Assassuni, 65 persons in Shyamnagar and 44 persons in Debhata thana of the district during the period.

Most of them committed suicide during the period. Of the suicidal cases about 90 per cent were women.

Unable to pay dowry, failure in the examination, poverty, unemployment, frustration, uncureable diseases. family troubles, love affairs, etc. are the cause of suicide. it is learnt.

#### Alleged dacoit held

SIRAJGANJ, Jan 26: Police in a pre-dawn raid in Aria Mohan area under sadar thana Wednesday last arrested an alleged dacoit along with an Indiah revolver, reports UNB.

Acting on a tip-off, police raided the area and nabbed Abdul Majid, 30, along with the revolver and two rounds of builet following a brief encounter. Majid had long been wanted by police in various

The accused and a police officer were injured in the incident, police said.

#### Middle-aged man killed in road mishap \*

SIRAJGANJ, Jan 26: A middle-aged man was killed when an autorickshaw hit him from behind at Bhadraghat on New Dhaka road yesterday night, police and witnesses said, reports UNB.

The victim was identified as Khoka Sheikh, 55. He met the accident at about 10 pm while crossing the road near Bhadraghat Bazar and died on way to hospital.

The body was sent to Sadar General Hospital. A case was filed with the po-

## 220 arrested in Gaibandha

From Our Correspondent GAIBANDHA, Jan 26: Gaibandha police arrested 220 accused persons on charge of different allegations from seven Thanas of the dis-

trict recently.

During the time on occasional drive police raided different locations and arrested 220 persons allegedly involved in various crimes during the last fortnight. Gobindaganj Thana police recently recovered a Chinese rifle under a bridge near Gobindaganj Thana. The highest nab of criminals took place a Gobindaganj Thana where police arrested 147 persons. Besides, police further arrested 27 persons from Gaibandha sadar, 15 persons from Sadullapur, 12 persons from Palashbari. 10 persons

#### Survey to determine quality of health service on

from Sunderganj and 9 per-

sons from Shaghata thanas.

FENI, Jan 26: A survey, to determine the quality of health service rendered during 1995 in the district, started last January 1, reports UNB.

Under the supervision of district Health Department some 250 Health Assistants and Health Inspectors, and 1,500 volunteers and village doctors are conducting the survey in 60,000 houses of the district.

The surveyors will collect informations about the nature of treatment of 13 diseases from each family. They will also distribute five lakh saline packets among the people free of cost.

The Health Department has decided to conduct such survey in 15 districts and the survey in Feni will be completed by the end of next

### Prize giving ceremony of Nespray held

KHULNA, Jan 26 : A prize-giving ceremony of Nespray milk-Fest competition was held recently in the Officers Club auditorium for Khulna Division. Prizes were distributed

among the best performers by the Branch-in-charge Zahid Hussain, a press release

Reputed businessmen of

the city and teachers of Business Administration Department of Khulna University were present on the occaPrice of milk rising in Jhenidah

# Dairy farmers see bright prospect of selling milk

.From Delwar Kabir

JHENIDAH, Jan 26: Dairy farming is gaining popularity in Jhenidah district and the number of farms are increasing every year.

According to reports, before 1993 the number of dairy farms in Jhenidah sadar. Sailkupa, Harinakundu, Kaliganj, Kotchandpur and Mohespur thanas was 13. In 1994 the number raised to 42 and in 1995 it increased to 84. District Livestock De-

partment sources said, the number of registered dairy farms are 84 and the population of improved cows in those farms are 425.

In 1993 all the 13 registered dairy farms received incentive bonus and since then no dairy farm received any incentive bonus from the government, it was learnt. As a result the dairy farm owners are losing their inspira-

According to sources, about 12.500 metric tons of milk is required for the people of Jhenidah district every year and about 14,500 metric tons of milk is produced from the registered dairy farms and domestic cows per

In different markets one litre of milk is being sold between Taka 13 and Tk 18 in tural areas and Taka 20 and

Tk 24 in urban areas. District Livestock Department sources said that though there was no proper Market for selling milk in Jhenidah, some private companies purchased the same every day. As a result, the milk price increased gradu-

While talking to Reazul Karim Biswas owner of Memi Dugdha Khamar, he informed that he had 12 improved cows giving him one maund of milk daily. He sells milk for Taka about 20,000 a month. Biswas said. He earns Taka 12,000 as net profit excluding fodder and other expenses.

Biswas told that about one year back the dairy farm owners were in trouble as there was no clear prospect for the farms. For want of subscribers they were compelled to sell milk at a lower rate and many entrepreneurs lost their confidence. But they have been gaining confidence again as the milk price

gradually, increased recently. Motaleb Hossain Biswas. owner of Nahar Dugdha Khamar said that he had been running his dairy farm with eight cows. He gets 30 litres of milk and gets about Taka

13,000 a month as profit. According to District Livestock Department Authorities in Jhenidah district the population of cattle was 4.81.517, buffalo-20.874, goat 4.09,356, and sheep 46,512. For these animals at least 1,07,894 tons of green grass is required. But only 25 per cent is obtained from the land. Further more five to six per cent fodder is available from oil cake, wheat granular and rice granular which can not meet the total requirements of fodder, sources

Authorities told that the farmers are not so aware for green grass cultivation. Only 42 acres of land is being used for napear grass cultivation which is too inadequate to meet the necessity. But if all the dairy farm owners cultivate napear grass massively. they can meet their fodder requirement at ease, sources



JHENIDAH: Abdul Motaleb Biswas, owner of Nahar Dugdhu Khamar at village Bahir Royera in Shailkupa thana of Jhenidah district is seen with his cows. - Star photo

# Six face wheat misappropriation charges in Kishoreganj

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, Jan 26: chairman reportedly lifted District Anti-Corruption Bureau, DAB, filed a case against six persons including a UP member with Mitamoin police station on charge of defalcation of wheat for a project under Food for Works programme.

According to the Bureau office, during the financial year 1993-94, 12.792 metric tons of wheat were sanctioned for the reconstruction of the road-cum-bundh running from Gagra Bazar to Chamakpur and a project committee was formed with Matiur Rahman, a member of Gagra Union Parishad as its chairman. The project

tons in collusion with Project Secretary, Meer Jahan Momen and Tota Mia, Abdul Malek, Habibur Rahman and Judge Mia, all project members by submitting false master rolls. The prices of the misap-

9.5 metric tons of wheat in

three instalments and mis-

appropriated 5.840 metric

propriated wheat was fixed at Taka 42.865.

On receiving complaints, Md. Fazlur Rahman, Assistant Inspector of DAB enquired into the matter and filed a case against all of them on January 9 last.

# Serious fertilizer crisis in Gopalganj

From Our Correspondent GOPALGANJ, Jan 26: High price and scarcity of TSP. SSP and MOP fertilizers may severely affect cultivation of IRRI-Boro, wheat and other crops during the current sea-

According to source of

Agriculture Extension Department (AED), target of IRRI-Boro cultivation has been fixed on 33400 hectares of land, wheat on 8,266 hectares, potato on 6,100 hectares, vegetables on 4,500 hectares and onion on 3,000 hectares of land. While production target has been fixed at 88,000 metric tons (mts) of Boro, 20,000 mts of wheat, 12,000 mts of vegetables and 6,000 mts of onion during the current season.

## Jail inmates suffer due to lack of amenities

MADARIPUR, Jan 26: The inmates of the district subiail have been suffering a lot due to lack of basic amenities, reports UNB.

The 100-men capacity sub-jail has been flooded with 175 accused since last December causing serious problems to the inmates. Jail sources said, due to want of proper maintenance and care, cracks have also developed on the walls of jail building. Although the number of

prisoners have increased, the facilities and supply of necessary materials have decreased.

# Valuables worth Tk 2 lakh looted

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, Jan 26: Dacoits looted valuables worth about Taka two lakh from nine shops at Pirijptir bazar in Bajitpur thana recently. The dacoits numbering about 15 came to the bazar by a truck at around 2 am and first tied up the night guards. The dacoits looted goods from nine shops belonging to Nurul Islam, Giasuddin, Rangit, Sushil Bhowmik, Liton Saha, Billal, Mohiuddin, Dhanesh and Bakul Mia. Later they fled towards

Bhairab. A case was registered with Bajitpur police station in this connection. The Superintendent of Police visited the spot. None has so far been arrested.

#### Wheat cultivation target not achieved

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, Jan 26: The target of cultivation of wheat could not be achieved due to inclement weather and non-availability of seeds in Kishoregani district during the current season.

According to an official source, this year the Agriculture Department took up an ambitious scheme to bring, 12,500 hectares of land under wheat cultivation and the target of production was fixed at 25,000 metric tons. But wheat could be cultivated on 10,670 hectares and the rest 1.830 hectares remain fallow.

Affected farmers said, due to rainfall, the soil of cropfield was wet for which they failed to sow the wheat seed timely. Besides, the dealers created artificial seed crisis in the market.



SYLHET: Kazi Enanuddin Ahmed, National President - Apex Club, speaking at the "12th district-4 convention '96" of National Association of Apex Club of Bangladesh held in Sylhet recently. - Star photo