

National

News snaps

Loan for distressed families

RAJBARI, Dec 6: District Livestock Department disbursed Tk 2.35 lakh interest-free loan among 34 distressed families in the current fiscal year for self-employment, reports UNB.

The loans was given to rear four cows and 30 goats by each family to make them self-reliant and lead a decent life. Meanwhile, local MPs Kazi Keramat Ali and Mohammad Zillul Hakim disbursed cattle and goats among the distressed families in Sadar and Pangsha thanas under the poverty alleviation scheme. The Livestock Department also gave vaccination training for poultry birds to 500 unemployed women. Besides, some other schemes are also being taken to improve the socio-economic condition of the poor people.

35 shops gutted in Rangamati

RANGAMATI, Dec 6: A devastating fire that raged through a rural bazar in Sadar thana on Thursday gutted 35 shops, reports UNB.

Witnesses said the fire, originating from a tea stall, broke out at Dhonpatamukh Bazar at 2 am and burned down goods and property worth about Tk 39 lakh during its two hours fury. Shopkeepers and local people failed to extinguish the late night flame as the firefighters could not reach the spot due to backward location of the bazar. Another fire incident in Kalindipur area of the town, gutted a dwelling house on Thursday morning. Firefighters rushed to the spot and put out the blaze.

Discussion on life of Bhasani

DINAJPUR, Dec 6: A discussion meeting on the life and politics of Maulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani was held last week at local press club to mark the 21st death anniversary of the great leader, reports BSS.

Organised jointly by Dinajpur Press Club and Jatiya Sangbad Sangstha (JSS) the discussion was presided by the press club general secretary Sadaqat Ali. Vice-president of the central committee of the JSS advocate Abdul Majid was present on the occasion as chief guest. Among others, Maniruzzaman Babu, Asaduzzaman Liton, Abdul Hye, Abdul Hasnat and SR Mukul took part in the discussion. The speakers paid tributes to Maulana Bhasani and said he championed the causes of the oppressed throughout his long life.

Man chopped to death

KISHOREGANJ, Dec 6: A middle aged man, who was chopped allegedly by his nephew recently, succumbed to his injuries at Pakundia Thana Health Complex, reports UNB.

Hospital sources said Nizamuddin, 39, of Char Doudkandi village in the thana received serious injuries when his nephew Moghal Mia attacked him with a ramda following an altercation. He was rushed to Pakundia Thana Health Complex where he died.

25 hurt by terrorists

SHERPUR, Dec 6: At least 25 people, including five firebredders, were injured in an attack by armed terrorists at Kishumati Bazar in Sadar thana recently, reports UNB.

Witnesses said the hoodlums attacked different shops, including hotels and pharmacies, and looted goods. They also set fire to eight shops during the attack. Three of the injured were admitted to Sherpur Sadar Hospital. The firefighters were injured as the attackers swooped on them while putting out the blaze. Local people feared that a conflict between the authorities of a Junior High School and the shopowners of the bazar over the possession of a land might be the reason behind the attack.

5,000 cft timber seized

KHAGRACHARI, Dec 6: Some timber traders alleged that Armed Police seized 5,000 cft timber from the town's Panchmille area ignoring their valid papers, reports UNB.

Traders said patrolling AP battalion seized the timbers worth of Tk 30 lakh while being taken to the plain land against valid papers issued by the authorities concerned. Meanwhile, the owners of the timbers demonstrated in front of the Deputy Commissioner's office demanding release of their timber. The seized timbers loaded in 11 trucks were, earlier, deposited with the district administration. When contacted the DC said the timbers were handed over to the local forest department following some complicity.

Massive potato farming scheme

BHOLA, Dec 6: Some 2,850 hectares of land in 11 southern districts of Barisal Division have been brought under potato cultivation for this season, reports UNB.

The Agriculture Extension Department has fixed the production target at 3.32 lakh metric tons, officials said. District wise break-up: 4,800 mt on 400 hectares in Barisal, 6,000 mt on 500 hectares each in Pirojpur and Bhola, 600 mt on 50 hectares in Jhalakati, 1,200 mt on 100 hectares each in Patuakhali and Gopalganj, 3,600 mt on 300 hectares each in Barguna and Madaripur and 2,400 mt on 200 hectares each in Faridpur and Shariatpur districts. Local farmers apprehended that the target may suffer setback as there were severe lack of high yielding seeds. They alleged that all the BADC seed sale centres at district headquarters, except Faridpur, are in short supply of potato seeds.

Dewan Golam Murtaza Award distributed

HABIGANJ, Dec 6: Dewan Golam Murtaza Award-1997 has been awarded to renowned writer and researcher Dr Mustafa Nurul Islam, reports UNB.

The award was distributed in a reception organised by Golam Murtaza Smriti Sangsada at Sirishota in the town on Friday. The ceremony was attended by the Director General of National Museum Mohammad Shamsuzzaman Khan and Joint Secretary of Science and Technology Ministry Shah Nazmul as special guests. The recipients of the awards, so far distributed since 1991, are poet Delwar, novelist Humayun Ahmed, Dr Anisuzzaman, Gazi Shamsur Rahman, Prof Monzaz Uddin Ahmed and Litterateur Shawkat Osman.

Shortage of computer teachers

PATUAKHALI, Dec 6: Students of SSC-level here have been suffering badly for want of successful computer teachers in different schools, reports UNB.

Guardians said most of the teachers who have been assigned to teach Computer Science in class IX and X are not capable to give proper lesson to the students about the subject. As a result, students are forced to take private coaching from the commercial computer training centres by spending a lot of money. But the poor students who have taken Computer Science are passing their in anxiety as they cannot afford to outside coaching.

The guardians have urged the authorities to take necessary steps to alleviate the problems of the students without further delay.

Discussion on compulsory pry edn policy

CORILLA, Dec 6: A discussion meeting on compulsory primary education policy of the government was held on November 29 at Barura thana poura Girls Primary School premises, reports BSS.

Abul Hakim MP was present at the meeting as chief guest while Nurul Amin Chowdhury, district primary education officer were present as special guest. Thana education officer Shakhat Hossain presided over the meeting. Three hundred odd primary school teachers including headmasters attended the meeting.

Toaha's anniversary of death

LAKHIMPUR, Dec 6: An elaborate programme was chalked out by different organisations in the district on November 29 to mark the 10th death anniversary of the communist leader Comrade Mohammad Toaha, reports BSS.

A discussion on the life and political ideal of comrade Toaha was held at Toaha Smriti Balika Bidyalaya at Ramgati. Presided over by Nurul Islam, the meeting was addressed, among others, by Comrade Abdur Rouf, president, Bangladesh Chashi Samity. Another discussion meeting was held at Harjhat Primary School premises. Presided over by Ali Haider, a teacher of the school, the meeting was addressed among others, by Comrade Abdur Rouf, Dr Maifiz Huq, Zahirul Islam, Shahiduddin, Abdul Ali and Harun Chowdhury.

Pest-attack on Boro field

SUNAMGANJ, Dec 6: Boro paddy cultivation in 10 thanas of the district is likely to be affected adversely due to large scale pest attack on the seed-beds, reports UNB.

Farmers, mainly depended on Boro paddy in the season, said the seed-beds prepared to cultivate the crop on 6,000 hectares of land have become dry and pale as pests have been eating up the leaves and tip of the seeds. They alleged that local Agriculture Extension Department (AED) failed to supply pesticides and spray machines to them. The district has only 400 spray machines which is quite inadequate to meet the requirement. AED officials, however, admitted that the only means to combat the menace was to spray pesticides on the seed-beds but it was not possible with such small number of machines working in the district.

36 injured in post-poll violence in 2 dists

By Staff Correspondent

At least 36 persons were injured in post-election violence in the districts of Rajshahi and Narsingdi on Thursday.

Our Rajshahi Correspondent says: Twenty persons were injured, 10 seriously at village Hat Madhnagar under Bagmara thana in the district.

A total of 20 houses, 100 shops, 25 granaries, about 400 trees and crops on about 100 acres of land were also damaged and looted.

According to police, supporters of the winner chairman of Naradas union Moslemdin brought out a victory procession on Thursday noon. When the procession was passing through

Win for opposition candidates in Alamdanga

From Our Correspondent

CHUADANGA, Dec 6: Opposition candidates won majority seats in six unions of Alamdanga thana in the district.

Six unions are: Bangbaria, Hardi, Kumari, Gangni, Kalidaspur and Khadampur. BNP has captured four posts of chairman while AL has captured two seats of chairman.

They are: Sanwar Hossain (BNP) — Bangbaria union, Nazmul Islam (BNP) — Hardi union, Helaluddin (BNP) — Kumari union, Aktaruzzaman (AL) — Gangni union, Gahar Ali (BNP) — Kalidaspur union and Abdul Halim (AL) — Khadampur union.

According to Alamdanga thana election office source, 90 to 95 per cent voters cast their votes on Thursday. Election to the rest seven union parishes of Alamdanga thana will be held on Monday. The unions are: Jhala Khashkarara, Nagdal, Jamjami, Dauli, Belgaichi and Baradi. The total number of voters in seven unions are 77,154.

One held on charge of kidnapping schoolgirl

JAMALPUR, Dec 6: Police arrested a youth from Pathalia area of the district town on charge of kidnapping a schoolgirl from Madhupur thana in Tangail, reports UNB.

The arrested was identified as Abdullah Farook, 25, of village Bhabanipur in Sarishabari thana. The two other accused Milon and Mursheed Kuli Khan are still absconding.

Earlier, the Home Ministry announced a Tk 50,000 award for their arrest.

Acting on a tip-off, a police squad raided the Pathalia area and picked up Farook.

Asmaul Hosna, a student of class VII, was abducted on August 25 while returning from school. She could not be traced yet.

B'baria Newsletter

From Our Correspondent

BRAHMANBARIA, Dec 6: One Roman, 9, son of Siddik Mia of Paramanandapur village under Sarali thana in the district was killed when a fish entered inside his throat recently.

According to sources, when Roman was fishing, he kept a fish on the teeth. But the fish entered into the throat. As a result, the boy died.

Body recovered

Police recovered an unidentified body of a girl, near Islamabad village under Sarali thana of the district recently.

Police recovered the body while they were patrolling on B'baria-Sylhet highway at night. Police suspected that the girl might be killed in highway accident at night.

Phensidyl recovered

Detective Branch (DB) of police recovered one hundred bottles of phensidyl from a banana garden near Akhawra railway station. They recovered 100 bottles of phensidyl syrup worth about Taka twenty thousand.

Tafsir mahfil

A four-day long Tafsir mahfil jointly organised by Moind Hafiza Furkana Madrasa and Moind Youth Organization was held at village Moind recently.

The mahfil was presided over by local Sardar Abdur Rawf Mia while Maulana Abdul Rahman, Maulana Serajul Haque and Maulana Sultan Uddin performed the religious wazir in the mahfil.

Erratic power supply hits mills' out put

Due to frequent power failure large number of small and medium industries of the different areas in the district are facing set back in production.

Hundreds of mills and factories of local BSCIC industrial area, Jagat Bazar and other areas of the thana headquarters, Kukil Textile Mills, all 11 cinema halls have been incurring heavy loss due to erratic power supply.

During the dry season irrigation system of some area are disrupted as the electrified deep tubewells and shallow tubewells face serious crises of electricity.

Madhnagar, village of the defeated chairman candidate Jonab Ali, the prosectionists got agitated. They went on rampage. They ransacked, looted and set ablaze houses including that of Jonab Ali.

Meanwhile Abu Hena, MP from Bagmara and Mohanpur constituencies in a press conference on Friday night at Rajshahi City Press Club alleged that Awami League activists attacked village Hat Madhnagar and its market. They destroyed and looted houses, shops and granaries and injured many people.

He said that Awami League activists, created a reign of terror in Naradas, Zhikra and Naradas unions before the presence of police.

A huge contingent of police were sent to the spots, SP office source acknowledged.

It may be mentioned that the supporters of Awami League bagged only two seats out of 16 seats of chairman post and a few posts of member in Bagmara thana. The elections were held on Dec 1 and 3.

The elected chairmen are: Hazi Shirazul Islam (Shilmari), Osman Goni (Punchdona), Meher Uddin (Meherpur), Usif Khan Pinto (Hazipur), Anwar Hossain (Amida), Aftab Uddin Bhuyean (Chinhipur), Abdulla Miah (Kathalia), Mizanur Rahman (Palkherchor), Abdul Baten Shorker (Chordigoldi), Haris Miah (Karinpur) and Bazlur Rahman (Mohishashura union).

According to witnesses and police, the clash occurred at Horipur Bazar between the supporters of Bakul and Fazlu mem-

ber. At one stage the agitated supporters used landmines and other lethal weapons. At around 7 am supporters of Bakul attacked the house of Hossain Mollah, a supporter of Fazlu, a member-candidate.

A total of 16 supporters of both the sides were injured in the attack and counter attack. Seven of them were admitted to Sadar hospital, 5 at Raipura hospital and 4 at DMCH. They are: Illias 22, Badal Miah 28, Hossain Ali, 32, and Babu, 26.

A case was filed with Raipura police in this connection.

Another report adds: Polling at Kazirkandi centre under Allokabali union has been postponed for violence.

Polling at Khodadilla centre of the same union has also been postponed as supports of a chairman candidate snatched ballot boxes and ballot papers from the centre.

Meanwhile, elections were held peacefully in 13, out of 14 unions of sadar thana in the district.

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MUNSHIGANJ : Farmers carrying paddy to their homes from land at the advent of harvesting season. The picture was taken recently from a village in Munshiganj district. — Star photo by AKM Mohsin

Electricity creates brighter prospects for farmers

FARIDPUR, Dec 6: Electricity has created brighter prospects for the farming community, reports BSS.

Ayezuddin Bepari at Tambulkhan village said, "I can now produce many times more crops by using the irrigation facilities created by electric connection to my village.

Ayezuddin has set up a deep tubewell at his own cost to provide irrigation facilities to nine acres of agricultural land of different farmers of the locality.

Ayezuddin said he sold a piece of land to buy and install the deep tubewell.

"Now every month I earn nine times more than the income I got from the piece of land I sold to buy the deep tubewell," a beaming Ayezuddin said. He praised the local Palli Biddu Samity for going quick connection and better service which, he said, gave him a very good start in the irrigation business.

He said he was planning to set up another shallow tubewell in the area.

The farmers said they are getting better crop after they opted for power-driven pumps instead of the diesel pumps.

So interested people will always be asking for electricity, the general manager said.

Salauddin al Bitar, General Manager of Magura PBS, has the same statement to make.

He said Magura PBS started functioning in 1996 and it has already given connection to 4,674 domestic consumers and 395 commercial establishments. The general manager pointed out that the people at the grassroot, level are more benefited by taking RF lines because "we do not have minimum billing system".

Executive engineer of the area Shariful Islam said as the consumers under the PBS are the owners of the organisation, it is mandatory for us to give them better service. "We run business on no loss no profit basis."

He explained, "we will divert our funds to other socio-economic activities if some day we reach profit level."

Directorate General Defence Purchase

Ministry of Defence
New Airport Road, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215

Tender Notice

1. Sealed tender in foreign currency is invited from bonafide manufacturers/dealers/indentors (not necessarily to be enlisted with this Directorate General) for supply of the following items for Bangladesh Navy:

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