

National

News snaps

One killed in road accident

MADARIPUR, Jan 18: One person was killed and eight others were injured in a road accident on Dhaka-Barisal highway on January 7, reports BSS.

The accident took place when a Madaripur-bound tempo and a Takerhat bound truck collided head-on near Baro bridge at Rajori thana. Tahmin Begum, 50, of village Rajori succumbed to her injuries on way to Rajori Health Complex. Five of the eight injured persons were admitted into Rajori Thana Health Complex.

Telephone subscribers facing problem

NOAKHALI, Jan 18: Telephone subscribers in the district have been facing manifold problems for a long time, reports UNB.

All the lines of 1,100-line exchange at Majidi town have been exhausted which, the officials said, is the main reason for cropping up several problems. The subscribers complained of frequent wrong dialing and cross connections and said most of the time the sound is not audible. Lot of noise can be heard in a good number of lines making it impossible to respond to the call from other side. They said there is no repair of underground cable lines and machineries at the switch room for long which may be one of the reasons of poor quality of service.

Poor students fail to appear in exam

PATUAKHALI, Jan 18: Six hundred twenty-two primary scholarship examinees from Galachipa and Dumki thanas remained absent in the examination held on January 7 and 8, reports BSS.

According to relevant sources, out of 896 examinees only 392 took part in the examination in Galachipa thana while out of 277 examinees only 158 sat in the examination in Dumki thana of the district. Teachers and guardian sources said, rural students who are generally poor could not participate in the examination due to financial problem.

Theft at Cox's Bazar poura office

COX'S BAZAR, Jan 18: Documents and Tk 15,000 cash were stolen in a theft at the pourasava office on Friday night, police said, reports UNB.

A gang of thieves took away the documents and cash from steel almirah of six rooms including accounts, the secretary and the engineers rooms where they entered by breaking open the door. A case was filed with Sadar thana. Mentionable that the present pourasava chairman was put under suspension due to different allegations like irregularities, corruption. But the chairman got stay order against the suspension order following a writ petition filed with the court.

Indian sarees seized

FENI, Jan 18: Bangladesh Rifles seized smuggled Indian goods including saree and silk clothes worth about Tk 72 lakh in separate drives in Chhagalnaiya thana last week, reports UNB.

Indian sarees worth Tk 35 lakh were recovered from a truck after raiding it at Madhugram in the thana on January 7. In another drive near the Chhagalnaiya bazar, the BDR jawans raided a loaded truck and recovered Indian clothes worth Tk 37 lakh. The goods included 1,180 pieces of Indian cotton and silk clothes, 1,207 yards of clothes and scarf. The goods were deposited with the customs godown and separate cases were filed with the police.

Crackdown on law-breakers

GAIBANDHA, Jan 18: With the growing trend of using wood in brick fields, the police administration in the district has taken necessary steps to crackdown on the law-breakers, reports UNB.

Police Super of the district has directed the detective branch of police to check the woods being used in 60 brick fields of the district. A section of brick-field owners of the district have been using woods in brick fields with the help of some dishonest police officials, defying the government ban.

Forest Divn earns good revenue

RANGAMATI, Jan 18: Chittagong Hill Tracts South Forest Division (CHTSFD) has earned a revenue of Taka 2.70 crore during the first six months in the current fiscal by disposing off 35,000 cubic feet of timbers through open public auction and realisation of royalty of bamboos, reports BSS.

Tapan Kumar Dey, Divisional Forest Officer of CHTSFD said, a part of the timbers were recovered from the illegal traders who extracted those illegally from the government reserved forests.

CHTSFD is one of the six units in the Rangamati Forest Circle comprising six forest divisions covering Rangamati, Khagrachari and a portion of Bandarban hill district.

Winter vegetables farming scheme

CHUADANGA, Jan 18: About 5,400 hectares have been brought under various winter vegetables cultivation in the four thanas of Chuadanga district in the current season, reports BSS.

According to Agriculture Extension Department, thana-wise break up is as follows: Chuadanga sadar 2,500 hectares, Alamganga 1,050 hectares, Damurhuda 800 hectares and Jibannagar 1,100 hectares. The production target has been fixed at 80,000 metric tons of vegetables including brinjal, gourd, carrot, cauli flower, cabbage, tomato, radish, bean and potato.

Training course on cultivation

MEHERPUR, Jan 18: A three-day training course on modern method of winter vegetables cultivation was held last week at Baradi Horticultural Centre under Kushtia district, reports BSS.

One hundred and twenty vegetable growers both male and female were imparted training by resources persons of the Agriculture Extension Department. The training course was inaugurated by M. Muhtashim Billah, chairman of Meherpur pourashava. Elias Hossain, Shah Alam and Azizul Huq spoke on the occasion.

Netrakona-Atpara road in bad shape

NETRAKONA, Jan 18: The 10 km long Netrakona-Atpara road via Abhoypasa is now in a deplorable condition causing problems for the movement of vehicles as well as pedestrians, reports UNB.

The road has been damaged at several points making it almost unfit for vehicular traffic. Pot holes have developed at many points and bricks were stolen by the miscreants due to lack of maintenance and care by the authority concerned. According to local people, more than 50 road accidents have been occurred in last three months on this road. The road becomes muddy and slippery even after a slight rainfall. Many hats, bazaars, schools and other establishments are located on both the sides of the road. Moreover, brick laying works are yet to start on two km road from Banianza to Atpara.

Educationist dead

JHENIDAH, Jan 18: A renowned educationist and social worker N Abdur Rouf died of high blood pressure at Dhaka Shuhrawardy Hospital on Tuesday. He was 67, reports UNB.

Rouf started his teaching career at Jhenidah Govt Boys' High School in 1865 and retired from Jhenidah Govt Girls' High School. He was the Jhenidah district scout commissioner and rendered valuable services as an scout organiser. He left behind three sons, two daughters and a host of friends and relatives.

Kishoreganj journalists' iftar party

KISHOREGANJ, Jan 18: Bangladesh Sangbadik Samity, Kishoreganj branch organised an iftar party at local press club recently, reports BSS.

The iftar party was attended, among others, by the Deputy Commissioner AMM Farhad, Police Super Chowdhury Ahsanul Kabir, President of Bangladesh Sangbadik Samity, Kishoreganj branch Abu Bakar Siddique Hero, Vice President Subir Bashak, General Secretary Sayduzzaman, press club president M Abdul Latif, General Secretary Shaheen Khan and prominent journalists of the district.

Dacoits in Jhalakati

BARISAL, Jan 18: Daring dacoits were committed at two houses and a shop at Dalsanker village under Rajapur thana of Jhalakati district recently, police said, reports BSS.

According to the source, a gang of dacoits numbering about 10-12 armed with deadly weapons entered the houses of Nirmal Halder and his brother Bimal Halder and decamped valuables and household belongings without a dead of night. Later, tying the hands and legs of the house-masters, the dacoits gang raped their wives. The dacoits then committed dacoity at a mike service shop at Dalsanker village Nutan bazar, the source added.

Many shops gutted

KUSHTIA, Jan 18: Many shops of Jabbar Market of Mirpur thana were gutted on Tuesday night, reports BSS.

The fire, started from a hardware shop was originated by the staine of a burning barbeare and spread up to the bazar. Fire-brigade rushed to the spot and controlled the fire. The fire caused huge loss of property.

Barguna Civil Surgeon humiliated

From Our Correspondent

BARGUNA, Jan 18: District Civil Surgeon Horibinda Sen was humiliated by local people and class three employees of the health department here on Saturday.

They attacked the civil surgeon at around 11 am during a workshop of national vaccination programme. Sources said that the civil surgeon made some controversial comments in his speech about the class three employees. He was presiding over the programme.

The instant reaction of the assailants has link with previous hostility with the employees of the health department, sources said.

The District Commissioner Azhar Ali Talukdar was present there during the incident. The civil surgeon escaped from the wrath of the employees as the DC intervened.

Among the locals Bar Council president Nazrul Islam Alam, general secretary Abdul Halim Mia, advocate Belayet Hossain, chairperson of Mahila Awami League, local press club president and general secretary were present there and supported the employees.

A number of doctors, district Education Officer and district Information Officer were also present at the scene and supported the employees.

Boy killed in road accident

MEHERPUR, Jan 18: A 10-year-old boy was killed in a road accident at Chandbill thana on Friday, reports UNB.

Witnesses said Taibur Rahman Pappu, died on the spot when a speeding bus ran over him at 4 pm.

Taibur was the son of Nizamuddin, a bus owner, of Chandbill area.

CHANDPUR, Jan 18: About fifty thousand fishermen of the district are facing unemployment due to abnormal fall in fish production in the rivers Meghna, Badma, Dhanogoda and Dakatala of Chandpur area.

Fish production in the district has suffered a serious setback due to massive silting of the rivers, canals and indiscriminate fishing of fries in the rivers. Fish production is also hampered due to the out break of fish diseases. Unabated fishing of hilsa and "pangus" and other fries by large number



RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY: Noted writer and litterateur Prof Badruddin Omar recently presented his key-note paper of Shaheed Dr Shamsuzzoha memorial address. Chemistry Department of the university arranged it. Prof Abdul Khaleque, Vice-Chancellor of the university and Prof M Umar Ali, Chairman, Chemistry Department were present on the occasion.

— Star photo

50,000 fishermen in miseries in Chandpur

From Our Correspondent

of fishermen also hampered the natural growth of fishes in the area.

It has been reported that a group of people living along the riversides fish fries rampantly defying the government ban during the breeding seasons.

Fish diseases that breaks out every year have already perished about fifty per cent of the total quantity of fish in the area.

There are two big irrigation projects at Chandpur. These irri-

gation projects have reduced fish production in the district to a great extent. Increased use of insecticides in paddy fields have already perished a huge quantity of fish. Fish is not cultivated properly in different water bodies in the district now-a-days. The fishermen cannot cultivate fish due to fund constraints. They neither get bank loans nor get other financial help.

Meanwhile, a large number of fishermen have left their ancestral profession. They have taken up other occupations.



NARAYANGANJ: The local administration distributed warm clothes among the destitutes on January 12. Md Abdul Rahman, DC, Narayanganj visited the launch terminal, bus stand, railway station and some slum areas of the town and distributed those items. — Star photo

BNP's protest rally in Bandarban

BANDARBAN, Jan 18: Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) district unit, organised a protest rally at the local Press Club premises on Saturday demanding the cancellation of the Peace Accord signed with the tribal insurgents, reports UNB.

Presided over by local BNP leader MA Kuddus, JASAS central committee president Rezabuddoula Chowdhury attended the rally as chief guest.

Terming the accord as against the constitution the speakers said the Bangalee inhabitants have been made second class citizen whose existence depends on the mercy of the tribal council. They called to wage a greater movement to force the government to scrap the unequal agreement that deprived the 6.5 lakh Bangalee of CHT area of their legitimate constitutional rights.

JASAS general secretary Wasimul Bari, Prof Osman Gani, Adv Mohitul Hossain and other local leaders also spoke. Earlier, Deputy Commissioner of the district held a hearing session on 17 allegations brought by the 13 commissioners against the chairman.

Prices of essentials up in Patuakhali

PATUAKHALI, Jan 18: Prices of essentials have shot up in the district with the approach of the holy month of Ramadan, reports UNB.

Local people said the greedy stockists, wholesalers and vendors have increased the prices of daily necessities just before the Ramadan without any genuine reason and the trend is to earn windfall profit.

In some cases the profit-monger traders have increased the prices two to three times higher causing untold sufferings to the low-income group of people.

On the spot survey by a correspondent it has been revealed that the prices of vegetables, spices and other food items have soared beyond the purchasing capacity of the common people.

He was addressing a seminar on "Road accidents and the safety of the people" at Manikganj on Saturday.

Organised by Consumers' Association of Bangladesh (CAB), the seminar was addressed, among others, by State Minister for Land Rashed Mosharraf, Abdul Wahab Khan MP, CAB member Rasheda K Chowdhury, chairman of Manikganj Pourashava Ramzan Ali and Film artist Illyas Khan.

Kazi Faruque presented the key-note paper in the seminar, chaired by eminent journalist Borhan Ahmed.

Anwar Hossain said there was not enough arrangement for transportation or education for the huge 12 crore population.

"Road accident is not an isolated matter," he said adding "we have to compare it with the over-all socio-economic and political scenario of the country."

The minister said we could not develop our regional and national highways like those of the developed countries.

Feni Municipality chairman faces no-confidence

FENI, Jan 18: In a no-confidence motion, 13 out of the 18 ward commissioners of Feni Municipality voted against the Chairman on Wednesday, reports UNB.

The no-confidence motion was held at the directive of LGRD Ministry following complaints by 13 ward commissioners of the municipality against chairman Alhaj Kobbad Ahmed.

Earlier, Deputy Commissioner of the district held a hearing session on 17 allegations brought by the 13 commissioners against the chairman.

Re-election stayed

A Division Bench of the High Court stayed the re-election of Union Parishad at the Larma Talukpara Primary School centre of Mogalgaon union of Sylhet thana scheduled to be held on January 12.

The bench also issued a notice to show cause within two weeks as to why the official order for re-election would not be declared illegal, on the Secretary, Election Commission, District Election Officer, Sylhet, Thana Education Officer and Returning Officer, Presiding Officer of the centre and eight others.

The Division Bench comprised of Justice Quazi Shafuddin and Syed JR Md Dassar passed the order staying re-election procedure for four weeks, on hearing a writ petition filed by AKM Abdullah, a candidate for the chairmanship of Mogalgaon union. Advocate Mohammad Hannan, Advocate M

A mysterious theft was committed in three offices at the thana headquarters of Kanighat recently, official sources informed.

The thieves entered into the BRDB office, election office and the Project Implementation Officers' office by breaking open the doors. They took away the typewriters and some valuable papers from these offices. Separate ejahars were lodged with the police.

Mysterious theft committed

A mysterious theft was committed in three offices at the thana headquarters of Kanighat recently, official sources informed.

The thieves entered into the BRDB office, election office and the Project Implementation Officers' office by breaking open the doors. They took away the typewriters and some valuable papers from these offices. Separate ejahars were lodged with the police.

Re-election stayed

A Division Bench of the High Court stayed the re-election of Union Parishad at the Larma Talukpara Primary School centre of Mogalgaon union of Sylhet thana scheduled to be held on January 12.

The bench also issued a notice to show cause within two weeks as to why the official order for re-election would not be declared illegal, on the Secretary, Election Commission, District Election Officer, Sylhet, Thana Education Officer and Returning Officer, Presiding Officer of the centre and eight others.

The Division Bench comprised of Justice Quazi Shafuddin and Syed JR Md Dassar passed the order staying re-election procedure for four weeks, on hearing a writ petition filed by AKM Abdullah, a candidate for the chairmanship of Mogalgaon union. Advocate Mohammad Hannan, Advocate M

Khaled Ahmed and Advocate Shaokat Ali moved for the plaint.

The plaintiff in the petition alleged that the authoring after properly holding the election on December 29 gave a written result sheet showing him elected. But they later announced re-election in the centre illegally.

Wild elephant kills one

A wild elephant crushed a young man to death in Merina Tea garden area of Kulaura thana under Moulvibazar district.

The victim has been identified as Sajjadur Rahman of village Pushainer. The same elephant killed its Mahout Abdul Latif in the last month at the nearby Sagarnar area. The elephant also killed Abdul Latif's father who was also the mahout of the same, a year ago. Besides, the same elephant ran-sacked the Sagarnar Forest camp thrice.