

News snaps

Efforts on to eradicate polio

SHARIATPUR, Jan 20: Water Resources Minister Abdul Razzak has said the present government is working relentlessly towards eradication of polio disease from the country by the year 2000, reports BSS.

He was addressing as the chief guest at a function, arranged in connection with administering polio vaccine to under-five year children in the second round of the fourth National Immunisation Day (NID) in Bhederganj and Dhanuka of the district. The minister urged all to make the second round of the 4th National Immunisation Day a success. He later distributed winter clothes among the cold stricken poor families.

Noted agriculturist dead

RANGPUR, Jan 20: Abul Fazal Ahmed Chowdhury (Tunu Chowdhury), an eminent agriculturist of the district, died of a heart attack at his local residence on Monday morning. He was 67, reports BSS.

He is survived by his wife, two sons and a large number of relations and admirers after the namaz-e-janaza. He was buried at the Munshipara graveyard here. Chowdhury received many national and local awards including the 'Bangabandhu Krishi Award' in recognition to his contribution to the field of agriculture in the district.

Youth poisoned to death

GAIBANDHA Jan 20: A youngman was poisoned to death allegedly by his neighbours at Chandpur Singa village in Gobindaganj thana on Thursday, reports UNB.

Police said Shahjalal, the victim was called by his neighbour Mukbul Hossain in his house on Wednesday midnight and insisted him to marry his daughter. As he refused the proposal, Hossain and his son severely beat up Shahjalal and gave him poisonous water when he sought water to drink. He was admitted to Gobindaganj thana health complex where he died the following evening. Police sent the body to the hospital morgue for autopsy. A UD case was filed.

LGED takes up uplift projects

KISHOREGANJ, Jan 20: Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) has taken 38 rural development projects in the district, reports BSS.

According to official sources, the government has sanctioned Taka 1.65 crore for the implementation of the projects. The projects include reconstruction of bridges and development of roads of the rural areas.

Smuggled goods seized

FENI, Jan 20: Bangladesh Rifles seized smuggled goods worth over Tk 4.51 crore in the last year, reports UNB.

BDR officials said, the goods, recovered during the period from January to December, include Indian saree, warm clothes, cosmetics, timber, spices, drugs like phensidyl and wine. The sources said nine people were rounded up in connection with smuggling during 200 operations conducted by them in the bordering areas. The number of absconding accused is 18. BDR also lodged 651 cases with the police, the officials added.

BSCIC's loan disbursement programme

SUNAMGANJ, Jan 20: Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) here has taken up a programme to disburse loan of Tk 8 lakh under its self-employment programme, reports UNB.

Official sources said of the total, Tk 3 lakh will be distributed to 30 small scale industries to boost production. Some 200 educated unemployed youth will get the rest Tk five lakh for establishing poultry farming, handicrafts and other small scale industries to make them self-reliant.

Road repairing programme taken up

PATUAKHALI, Jan 20: Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), Patuakhali has taken up a programme to repair the road between Kalishuri bridge and Dhulia launch ghat in the current financial year, reports BSS.

Official sources said, Tk. 4.51.406 has been allocated for repairing of the road. Meanwhile, press tender has been initiated for issuance of the workorder.

7 arrested in Sylhet

SYLHET, Jan 20: Police arrested seven people on various charges from different parts of the district on Sunday and Monday, reports UNB.

Five people were nabbed from Gopal in Sadar thana on Thursday while they were engaged in gambling. Taka 2,000 were also recovered from their possession. The arrested are — Abdul Khaliq, Mashuk, Bashir Mia, Ansar Ali and Ziaul Huq. Police also arrested Abul Fazal wanted in connection with a snatching case from Subid Bazar in the town on Sunday. On the same day, CID police of Osmani Nagar centre caught Firoz Ali, son of Azimullah, from Rangia village in Balaganj thana. He is an accused of a case of Repression on Women and Children.

Jhum cultivation hampered

BANDARBAN, Jan 20: Food scarcity that prevailing at Modok area, 200 km far from sadar thana of the district, forced over a hundred of tribal people to come to the thana headquarters for relief, reports UNB.

Local leaders said that this year jhum cultivation was hampered by drought causing acute shortage of food in the area. While contacted, Deputy Commissioner Atiqul Islam told that relief materials, including rice, would be provided to the distressed people soon, adding that the TNO of Ruma thana have already been called urgently at the district headquarters in this regard.

Mosque based edn programme progressing

TANGAIL, Jan 20: Islamic Foundation, Tangail is conducting 75 mosque based Gana Shikhyas Centres in three thanas of the district, reports BSS.

Of the centers 30 are being run in Mirgapur thana, 30 in Chatali thana and rest 15 in Tangail sadar thana.

Under this programme a total of 2250 learners of different age groups are getting education facilities.

51 new pry schools being built

NETRAKONA, Jan 20: Local Government and Engineering Department (LGED), Netrakona has taken up a project for construction of 51 registered non-government primary schools in different areas of 10 thanas under Netrakona district in the current fiscal year, reports BSS.

According to an official source, the government has sanctioned Taka 2,67,24,000 for the implementation of the project. Meanwhile, 35 per cent work of the project has already been completed and the rest would be implemented soon, the source said. After construction of these primary schools, over twenty five thousand children would get the opportunity to have primary education, the official source added.

Eye disease breaks out in Kushtia

KUSHTIA, Jan 20: Eye disease has broken out in an alarming proportion in all the six thanas of the district. The students and minor boys and girls are the worst sufferers, reports UNB.

In the town and adjoining areas the disease has taken a serious turn and members of almost all families have already been attacked. Every day a large number of people of all ages are pouring into the hospital and chambers of physicians for treatment. Physicians confirmed the situation but did not furnish the exact cause behind the outbreak of the disease two weeks ago. Meanwhile, taking advantage of the situation, the medicine shop owners have enhanced the prices of all kinds of eye-drops and ointments.

740 bottles of phensidyl seized

MADARIPUR, Jan 20: Detective Branch (DB) of police, Madaripur, acting on a tip-off, seized 740 bottles of Indian phensidyl syrup from two private cars, at Kawrakandi and Anil Kha ferryghats on the Dhaka-Mawa highway recently, reports BSS.

Police arrested five persons in this connection. The arrested persons are Babul Hossain, Yeagub Khan, Motaleb Mia, Shipon Sarder and Amjad Ali. Separate cases were filed with Shibchar thana in this connection.

Work of new college progressing

BARISAL, Jan 20: Construction of a new college is going on in Darogabari area under Guthia Union Parishad of Uzirpur thana of the district, reports BSS.

Joint-secretary of the Minister of Education Sirajuddin Ahmed laid the foundation stone of the college, which has been named ideal college on January 9.

Presided over by Sarfuddin Ahmed Santu, founder of this college, the function was also attended, among others by Prof Md Hanif, newly elected chairman Abul Kamal Azad Badal, old chairman, A Halim Sarder, another newly elected chairman Dr Delwar Hossain, Headmaster Akkel Ali, A Mannan Talukder, Headmaster A Majid Khan, Muktiyodda M G Kabir Bhulu, Enayet Hossain Chowdhury, Prof Badiur Rahman and elite of the locality.



MUNSHIGANJ: Farmers spraying insecticides on pest attacked potato field in this ongoing winter season. — Star photo

Cold wave death toll now 55 in greater Rangpur

From Our Correspondent

RANGPUR, Jan 20: Cold wave that is persisting in five districts of greater Rangpur zone for the last three weeks has left 55 people dead so far.

Hundreds others have been attacked with pneumonia, asthma, diarrhoea, cough and other cold related diseases in last two days.

Mild sunlight has been visible now, but mercury has continued to drop. It has been fluctuating between nine degree Celsius and eight degree Celsius.

As a result a very severe cold has still been prevailing all over the zone. Poor and low income group people are worst sufferers.

Day labourers hardly went out of their houses in search of jobs to earn money and as a result many of them are facing starvation. Normal life has come to a halt. Prices of rice

have shot up in markets by Taka three to Taka four per kilogram. Vegetable farms have been severely hit and its production decreased causing rise of prices in market.

Rangpur district administration has so far distributed 2200 blanket and over 13,000 warm and cotton clothes, but it is very meagre to meet the great demand of cold affected people.

Jamuna Bridge nearing completion

Prospect of industrialisation brightens in N-dists

NATORE, Jan 20: As the construction of Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge is nearing completion, the prospect of establishing heavy and light industries and export processing zones brightens in comparatively less developed northern part of the country, reports UNB.

Industrialisation in the northern districts lagged behind for long due to various reasons including absence of natural gas supply, erratic power supply and backwardness in communication facilities.

Local people said lack of entrepreneurship and bureaucratic red-tapism had also hindered industrialisation in the region in the past.

The multi-million dollar bridge after completion will enable the people in the region to carry their goods smoothly along with the easy movement of passenger vehicles.

The prospect for setting up of agro-based industries in the region has also brightened with the construction of the bridge. A number of export processing zone can help flourish the process of industrialisation.

Local farmers said more than one crore metric tons of potato are being produced in the northern district every year which has a high potential for export because of its demand in European countries.

A lot of catechu which is needed in making best quality fabric dye and cosmetics are produced in Natore and Rajshahi. Roughly 1,000 metric tons of catechu trees are destroyed during the extraction of catechu juice every year. Scientific processing of catechu may help earn additional crores of taka.

There are about one million large palm trees in Natore, Rajshahi and Cnawabganj districts and thousands maunds of ripe palm fruits are being destroyed for want of a processing plant.

Separate cases were filed with the local police.

But the officials feared that it would not be achieved during the current season. They even reduced the price of seeds from Tk 4 per kg to Tk 3 to encourage the farmers.

Potato growers in the region suffered a heavy loss last year after producing bumper crop as the price dropped sharply.

Most of the farmers stored their potato in the cold storage and are not lifting it due to the price fall.

Azad Uddin, a potato farmer of village Hamichapur in Sadar thana of the district, told that he was very disappointed last year when he was compelled to sell his potato at a throw away price.

Some 50 maunds of potato got rotten due to want of storage facility, he said adding that he would observe the market situation this year before going for any venture with this crop.

Police arrested manager Monir Hossain, 35, and boy Najab Ali alias Joy, 25 after the victim, Kalpana Begum, 22, informed the police about the incident.

Kalpana, hailing from Gaibandha town, booked a room at the Jewel Guest House at Suhrawardi Road in the town on Sunday night.

She, along with her three-year-old son Sohan, was going to his husband's working place Pirojpur, but had to make an overnight stay at Sirajganj to catch a Khulna-bound train.

But the hotel manager and the boy raped her at about 2.30 am, alleged Kalpana, wife of a college teacher.

A case was filed with sadar thana.

Separate cases were filed with Shibchar thana in this connection.

Police arrested five persons in this connection. The arrested persons are Babul Hossain, Yeagub Khan, Motaleb Mia, Shipon Sarder and Amjad Ali. Separate cases were filed with Shibchar thana in this connection.

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Discussion on life of Bangabandhu

NETRAKONA, Jan 20: A discussion meeting on "Political Life of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman" was held on January 10 at Barhatta thana Awami League office premises, reports BSS.

A central working committee member of Bangladesh Awami League Fazlur Rahman Khan MP, attended the discussion meeting as chief guest.

Presided over by president of Awami League Barhatta thana unit Sultan Ahmed Nuri, the meeting was addressed, among others, by Agriculture Secretary of Awami League Netrakona district unit Islamuddin Khan Kala Miah, health secretary of Awami League Netrakona district unit Mujibur Rahman Jai and vice president of Chhatra League Netrakona district unit Gazi Muzammel Hussain Tuku.

Addressing the meeting Fazlur Rahman Khan said, the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was a thoroughly honest and dedicated political leader who had absolute commitment to the people. The independence of our country was impossible without Bangabandhu", he said.

Bandarban DC stops issuing certificates

BANDARBAN, Jan 20: The Deputy Commissioner of the district has stopped issuing of certificates to the permanent settlers since December 2, the signing date of the peace accord, reports UNB.

There is a provision in the accord to issue such certificates to local inhabitants by the circle chief or king. But in Bandarban district still no such circle chief or king was appointed.

The DC also informed the people who gathered for having certificates that he has written to the higher authorities whether he be allowed to issue certificates in the absence of circle chief or king.

Many permanent settlers are gathering at the premises of DC's office every day to collect the certificates.

Number of heart patients increasing in N-dists

NATORE, Jan 20: The number of heart patients is increasing day by day in the northern districts including Natore, reports UNB.

Solvent patients of the region are going to the reputed nursing homes at Calcutta, Madras, and Vellore of neighbouring country for better treatment.

Though there are four medical college hospitals in the region, but people are not getting proper treatment as the standard of medicare services is deteriorating gradually.

Taking advantage of the situation, a good number of private clinics have sprung up in the region with a view to earn money in the name of serving people.

According to the local people, most of the doctors of the medical college hospitals are well-connected with these private clinics or in some case they have their own clinics.

It is alleged that the doctors on duty in many hospitals are preferring their patients to go to their clinics for better treatment.

The thana health complexes and health sub-centres at thana and union levels are facing

shortage of specialists, medical officers and life-saving drugs. Government medicines are also being sold in the market by the dishonest staff members.

The people urged the government to look into the matter and take immediate steps to improve the treatment facilities in hospitals and health complexes.

Annual confce of Haimchar thana unit of BNP

From Our Correspondent

CHANDPUR, Jan 20: The annual conference of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), Haimchar thana was held at Aligbar High School ground.

The conference was inaugurated by S A Sultan Titu, convener, Chandpur district unit of BNP. The conference was presided over by advocate Mukhlisur Rahman. The conference was addressed, among others, by Mustafizur Rahman, advocate Iqbal bin Basher, Sharif Mohammad Yunus, Shafiqur Rahman and others.

MoulvibazarNewsletter

From Our Correspondent

Ex Chhatra Union leader dead

MOULVI BAZAR, Jan 20: Advocate Abdul Mueyed Chowdhury, a senior lawyer of Moulvibazar Advocate Bar died at his residence after prolonged illness recently. He was 65.

His namaj-e-janaza was held at Moulvibazar Government High School Play ground where people from all walks of life joined.

In his student life, Advocate Mueyed Chowdhury was elected vice president of the then Iqbal Hall Students Union of Dhaka University. As a leader of Chhatra Union, he earned name and fame at Dhaka in late 50's.

Later he joined Moulvibazar College as a lecturer in Political Science department. But he joined Moulvibazar Bar as a lawyer later on. He became a successful lawyer of the town within a few years.

Advocate Mueyed Chowdhury left behind his wife, two sons, a daughter and a host of relatives and wellwisher to mourn his death.

Urs Mubarak

The annual Urs Mubarak of Hazrat Syed Shah Mostafa Sher-e-Savar Chabukmar Mahub-e-Elahi (R) was held at his Dargah in Moulvibazar district town on January 15.

The programme of Urs includes milad mahfil, sacrifice of cows, Zikir-Asgar, Shirmi distribution and Akheri Muna-jat.

Hazrat Syed Shah Mostafa was one of 360 Awlias of Hazrat Shah Jalal (R) of Sylhet who came to Moulvibazar for preaching Islam from Baghdad.

His major Sharif is situated in Moulvibazar district town and annual Urs Mubarak has been observed by devotees on Pahela Magh of Bengali calendar every year.

Scholarships awarded

The Scholarship distribution ceremony of 'Nirhar' a local socio-educational organisation was held at local Janamulan Kendra recently.

Old man killed in road accident

An old man was crushed under wheels of a running train at outer signal area of Shamsnagar Railway station on Akhaura-Sylhet Railway Section recently.

The victim was identified as Md Ishak Miah, 60 of village Srisurjya under Kamolgonj thana in the district.

According to report, Ishak Miah was walking along the side track of railway lines. Meantime, Sylhet bound 'Kushiyara Express' appeared there and knocked the victim down and crashed him to death under its wheels.

It is learnt that, the victim was mentally disturbed. He was father of 3 daughter but no son.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer (RHD)
Road Division, Naogaon

Notice Inviting RHD Tender

1. Tender Notice No : 12NRD/1997-98 Eng.
2. Name of work : Construction of road side drain at 63rd KM of Naogaon-Chowmasia-Mohadevpur-Patnitala-Sapaher Road (Sapaher Bazar portion) under Road Division, Naogaon during the year 1997-98 Eng.
3. Chargeable Head : 168 RBF.
4. Estimated cost : Tk 2,19,349/-
5. Earnest money : Tk. 4,387/-
6. Time allowed for completion of work : 30 (Thirty) days from issue of work order.
7. Eligibility of Bidders : "A" to "E" general category of RHD contractor.
8. Last date for selling tender documents : 02-02-1998 Eng./ 20-10-1404 Beng. during office hours.
9. Last date and time of receiving tenders : 03-02-1998 Eng./21-10-1404 Beng up to 12:30PM.
10. Date and time for opening tenders : 04-02-1998 Eng./22-10-1404 Beng. at 12:45 PM.
11. Name of offices : i) Superintendent Engineer (RHD), Road Circle, Rajshahi.
ii) Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Division, Naogaon/ Nawabgonj/ Rajshahi.
12. Name of office where : i) Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Division, Naogaon/ Rajshahi/ Nawabgonj.
ii) Sub-Divisional Engineer (RHD), Road Sub-Division, Naogaon/ Patnitala/ 1st Line Workshop, Sub-Division, Naogaon.

NB : Bidding contractor must submit "TIN" and "VAT" Registration Certificate along with tenders, otherwise tender will be treated as informal.

DDP-874-15/1/98

G-108

Md. Abdur Rahman
Executive Engineer (RHD)
Road Division, Naogaon.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer
Khulna PWD Division No. I
Khulna

PWD Notice Inviting Tenders

No. 16 (C) 1997-98

1. Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 are hereby invited from the enlisted Special class-I (one)/class-II (one)/class-III (two)/class-IV (three)/class-V (four) building Contractor/Firm under PWD for the undermentioned works and will be received by the Divisional Commissioner, Khulna and undersigned as well as by the Executive Engineer, PWD Division-II, Khulna/Bagerhat/Satkhira under Khulna PWD Circle, up to 12:00 Noon of 11.02.98 and will be opened on the same day at 12:15 PM in presence of the contractor (Who may like to remain present). Each tender shall be in a sealed cover with the name of work superscribed on it.

Gr No	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time allowed for completion of work	Eligibility of contractors of firm
1 (one)	Special repair to Divisional Labour Office at Boyra, Khulna (Sub-Head: Special repairs to office building).	Tk 2,46,247/-	Tk 4925/-	70 (seventy) days	Enlisted special class-I (one)/class-II/class-III/class-IV Building contractors/firms of PWD.
2 (two)	Special repair to Divisional Labour Office at Boyra, Khulna (Sub-Head: special repairs to Sanitary and water supply arrangement of office Building).	Tk 1,81,173/-	Tk 3624/-	45 (forty five) days	Enlisted special class-I/class-II Sanitary and Plumbing contractors/firms of PWD.

N.B. Separate Earnest Money shall have to be submitted for each group.

3. Detailed contract documents consisting of Bangladesh Form No. 2911, schedule of items, specifications, additional terms and conditions etc. can be seen and obtained from the office of the Divisional Commissioners, Khulna and the undersigned and the Executive Engineer, PWD Division No. II, Khulna/Bagerhat/Satkhira during office hours on payment of usual charges (non-refundable). The tender form may be purchased by the contractor by showing of registration book himself or his/their representative on production of authorisation letter bearing the signature of the representative duly attested by the contractor any working day during office hours up to 1.02.98.
4. At the time of purchasing tender, contractors will have to show the original VAT certificate obtained from National Board of Revenue (Custom & Excise) and attested copy of VAT certificate will have to be furnished along with the tender schedule. Otherwise the tender will be summarily rejected.
5. At the time of purchasing tender contractors will have to show the original tax-payers identification number certificates (TIN) and will have to furnish along the tender schedule. Otherwise the tender will be summarily rejected.
6. If the rate is found same in more than one of valid lowest tenderer for the above mentioned work then the contractor will be selected through lottery to be held in the office chamber of the undersigned on 29.02.98.

Executive Engineer
PWD Division No. I
Khulna

DDP-880-15/1
G-107