

News snaps

Khulna city dwellers' coop sought

KHULNA, Dec 21: Khulna Metropolitan Police (KMP) has sought cooperation of the city dwellers in taking 30 fugitives to justice, reports UNB.

The miscreants, wanted in more than one cases, including that of murder and rape, have been perpetrating various felonies in Khalishpur thana avoiding police arrest. KMP said in a recent announcement. The absconding criminals are Kamrul Islam, Solaiman, Abdur Rahman, Nasiruddin, Abdul Barek, Sheikh Alam, Kalam Molla, Monwara Begum, Abul Kashem, Mashirul Rahman, Sheikh, Khalil, Shahadat Hossain and Shahid. The accused also include Badal, Nazrul Islam, Abul Kader Majumder, Mona Khan, Nazrul Islam, Muhammad Hanif, Ruhul Amin, Shahadat Hossain, Majid, Shafiquddin, Majidur Rahman, Parveen, Mafizur Rahman Tipu, Qayum, Muhammad Hanif and Shamsuddin alias Kalu.

Rivals' clash leaves 6 hurt

BENAPOL, Dec 21: A clash between two rival groups of people over poisoning the water of a ditch at Sura village in Sharsha thana left six people injured on Friday, police said, reports UNB.

Three of the injured — Zahangir, 30, Jamal, 27, and Mohiuddin, 25 — were hospitalised.

Dacoity in disguise of policemen

BENAPOL, Dec 21: Disguised as policemen, a gang of robbers committed dacoity in a house of Sukur Khola village in Bakra thana on Friday night, reports UNB.

Police said the robbers in the guise of law-enforcers entered into the house of Chand Dafadar and looted valuables worth about Tk 2 lakh. A case was filed.

Crackdown on drug traffickers

PATUAKHALI, Dec 21: In a crackdown on illegal drug traffickers police seized 52 bottles of phenisidyl from Ekata Sarak of the town and arrested two people in this connection on Monday, reports UNB.

On information, police raided the house of alleged phenisidyl trader Putul and recovered the Indian drug. They arrested Putul and her associate Nasim from the area. They were produced before the court later on the day and the court sent them to jail.

Phenisidyl recovered: One held

JESSORE, Dec 21: Police seized 390 bottles of phenisidyl from a bus near Khajura bus terminal on December 16 and arrested a man in this connection, reports UNB.

Acting on a tip-off, police raided the bus of Ananda Paribahan and caught Amirul Islam along with the contrabands. In another raid, some 200 grams of heroin was recovered from a house at Navaron Bazar in Sarsha thana on December 13 and arrested Rebeba Khatun on charge of possessing the drug.

Loan disbursement programme

CHAPAINAWABGANJ, Dec 21: Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank (RAKUB) has set a target to disburse Tk 10.5 crore farm loan in the current Rabi season, reports UNB.

Of the amount, Tk 3.70 crore has already been disbursed to cultivate IRRI-Boro paddy, wheat, sugarcane, pulse, mustard, potato, tomato, onion, garlic and other winter crops, official sources said. They said Tk 2.90 crore has been earmarked only for IRRI-Boro cultivation.

Islamic Studies teachers shortage

MADRIPUR, Dec 21: Students of four government primary schools in Rajoir thana are facing problem in learning Islamic Studies for lack of teachers of the subject, reports UNB.

The educational institutions are Khalia Government Primary School, Purba Nagrabi Government Primary School, Gangabandi Government Primary School, and Kapali Shakharpur Government Primary School. The crisis ensued when all Muslim teachers of the schools have been transferred to other schools.

735 Tara pumps to be installed

CHUADANGA, Dec 21: A total of 735 Tara pumps have, so far, been installed in three thanas, reports BSS.

The thanas are: Chuadanga Sadar, Alamdanga and Damurhuda. The Tara pumps have been installed by the Public Health Engineering Department (PHED). The pumps are installed to ensure supply of pure drinking water. According to an official source, of the total, 275 have been installed in Chuadanga Sadar thana, 23 in Alamdanga thana and 437 in Damurhuda thana. A total of over 55 thousand people of these three thanas are getting pure drinking water daily from these Tara pumps.

Efforts on to spread edn

GAURANADI (Barisal), Dec 21: Chief Whip of the Jatiya Sangsads Abul Hasanat Abdullah has said the present government under the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has undertaken an extensive programme for spreading education across the country, reports BSS.

He said establishment of Education Board, Teachers' Training College and the University of Science and Technology in Barisal were some of the examples of the programme. Speaking as the chief guest at the inaugural function of a new academic building of Gauranadi Women's College, the Chief Whip said, "We are working constantly to achieve national prosperity, but some opposition parties are pushing the country towards ruination." He said Awami League has come to power for five years with the verdict of the people.

Housewife raped

BAGERHAT, Dec 21: A young housewife was allegedly raped by some terrorists at Mulghar village in Fakirhat thana early Friday, reports UNB.

Police and local people said Awal Talukdar and Nurul Islam of the same village picked up the housewife of a day-labourer. They took her at nearby a garden and raped her repeatedly. The husband recovered his wife from the spot and admitted her to Fakirhat Thana Health Complex. A case was filed with the police in this regard.

Government of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer
Narayanganj PWD Division, Narayanganj

Tender Notice

(2nd Call)

1. Tender No : 22/1999-2000.
2. Name of work : Construction of THC Bander in the Dist of Narayanganj under the Scheme for Construction of 6 Nos THC and one no out door under GOB Fund (SH: Construction of Herring bone bond Road in the compound of THC at Bander) during the year-1999-2000.
3. Estimated cost : Tk 6,66,304/-
4. Earnest money : Tk 13,327/-
5. Time allowed for completion of work : 50 (fifty) days.
6. Eligibility of contractors/firms : Special Class-I/Class-II, enlisted Bldg Contractor's of PWD Class-II, enlisted Bldg Contractors of PWD Zone, Dhaka & Class-III enlisted Bldg Contractor's of PWD Circle-I, Dhaka.
7. Place of selling & receiving tenders : All offices of the Executive Engineer, under PWD Circle-IV, Dhaka & PWD Eden Bldg Division, Dhaka.
8. Last date of selling the tender : Till 27.12.99 Eng during office hours.
9. Date of receiving & opening of the tender : Up to 12:00 Noon on 28.12.99 Eng will be opened on same day at 12:15 PM.
10. Tender Form will not be sold to the contractor/firms those who have no VAT Registration.
11. The undersigned keep the right to accept or reject any tender without assigning any reason thereof.

AKM Shahjahan Patwary
Executive Engineer
Narayanganj PWD Division
Narayanganj

National

Bidhan Bahini men 'regrouping'

From Our Correspondent

MAGURA, Dec 21: The terrorists of 'Bidhan Bahini' are active again in the villages of Magura and Jhenidah districts.

As their leader Bidhan is in prison, they have started collecting fund through robbery and extortion.

In the last month, 'Bidhan Bahini' men committed series of robberies in several houses adjacent to Rayerhat Bazaar of Shalakupa thana under Jhenidah district. At least four people sustained bullet injuries during the robberies. Local people said Badsha of village Kriparpur, Aka, Baka and Osman of village Dhalsa Bogura under Shalakupa thana led the robbers.

After eight days of the incident the terrorists abducted a businessman and snatched money from his possession. Later, local people rescued him the following day with the help of police from a field at Fadilpur under Shalakupa thana.

Besides, accomplices of Bidhan also are harassing and issuing threats to complainants and witnesses of the cases lodged against Bidhan.

A complainant of an illegal toll collection case lodged with Shalakupa police station under Magura district against Bidhan, is now in Jhenidah jail. Allegation has it that the complainant was arrested after Bidhan Bahini men filed false

case against him only to harass him.

A total of five cases, including rape and murder, were lodged with Shalakupa and Sreepur police stations under Magura district against Bidhan.

Leadership of late terrorist Sannasi Biswas of village Singra under Shalakupa thana of Magura district. Soon he became a Frankenstein monster.

On November 5, 1997 Bidhan killed his mentor Sannasi in a rivalry over establishing supremacy.

Early this year, police started special crackdown on anti-social elements in the district. During the period four infamous terrorists — Nasir, Asalat, Zakir and Shaheen — were killed in encounters with police. More over, some close aides of Bidhan, including bodyguard Nirmal, were arrested in special drives, perplexing the gang leader and forcing him to take shelter in neighbouring Jhenidah district.

Bidhan finally gave in. On June 7 this year he surrendered to police in response to a general amnesty declared by the government in a ceremony in presence of Home Minister Mohammad Nasim.

Local people said Bidhan is in jail, but his men are now regrouping themselves. When contacted superintendent of police of Magura M Akbar Ali denied the allegation and said they are not regrouping themselves at least in Magura district. Police will take stern actions if they try to regroup themselves, superintendent of police added.

Bidhan

Police after investigation charged the Mafia boss in four cases.

Bidhan, son of Niranjan Biswas of village Monuria in Kaliganj thana under Jhenidah district, started his terrorist activities as a novice under the

leadership of late terrorist Sannasi Biswas of village Singra under Shalakupa thana of Magura district. Soon he became a Frankenstein monster.

On June 7 this year he surrendered to police in response to a general amnesty declared by the government in a ceremony in presence of Home Minister Mohammad Nasim.

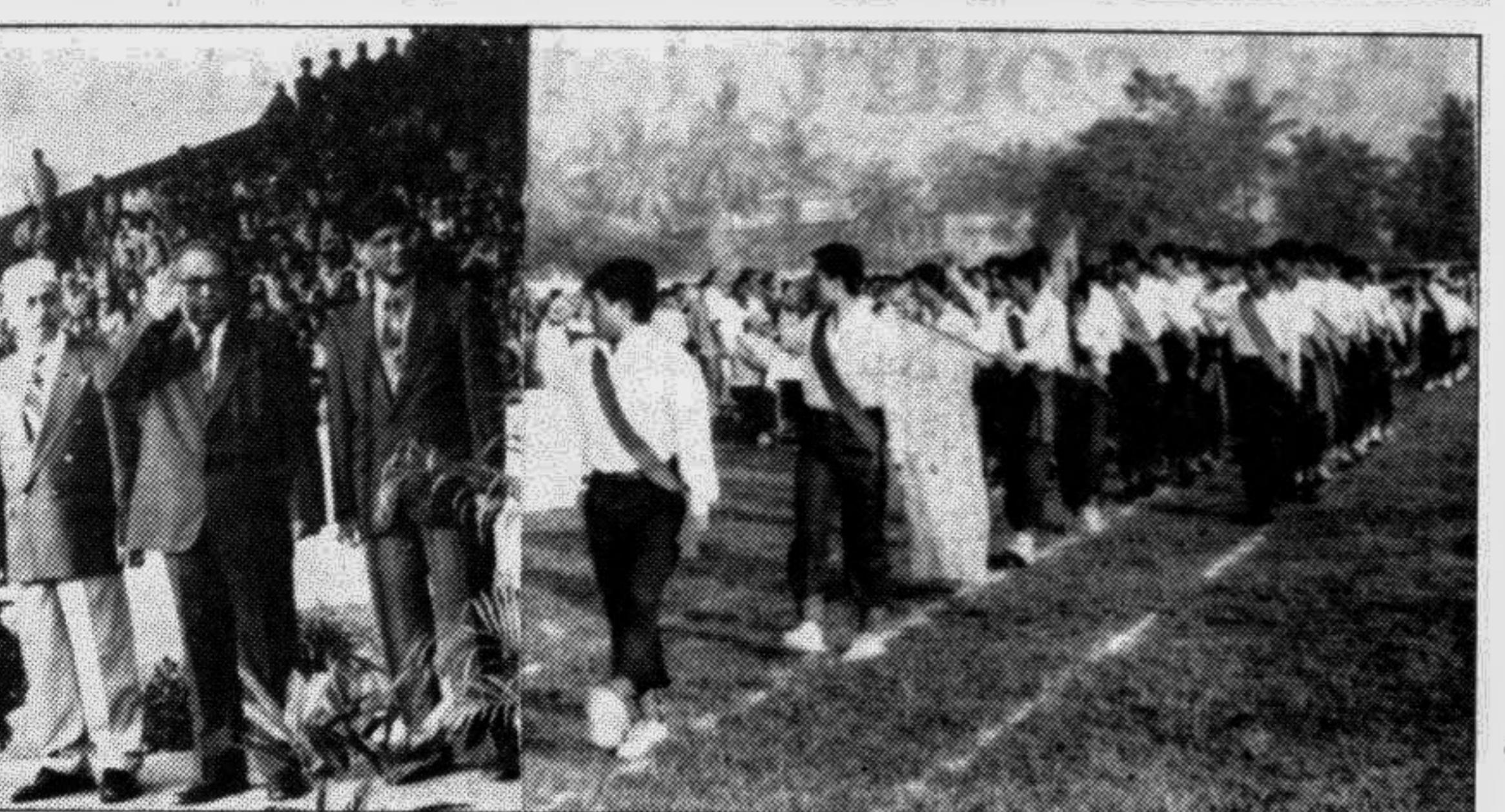
Local people said Bidhan is in jail, but his men are now regrouping themselves. When contacted superintendent of police of Magura M Akbar Ali denied the allegation and said they are not regrouping themselves at least in Magura district. Police will take stern actions if they try to regroup themselves, superintendent of police added.

In the wake of the seed crisis, local agriculture office has decided to bring only 1,200 hectares of land under onion cultivation, fixing the output target at 12,000 mts against the usual target of 25,000 mts.

While visiting Gurudaspur, Baraigram and Lalpur thanas, farmers told this correspondent that their onion-growing lands were still lying fallow due to seed crisis.

Haider Ali Mia of Bilmari village in Lalpur thana said he had a good quantity of seeds, but he was forced to sell some of it to support his family during the period of Kartik and Agrahayan when food crisis hit the country's northern region.

Woman robbed of gold necklace in Sirajganj



Vice-Chancellor of Bangladesh Agriculture University (BAU) Prof Muhammad Hussain was paying respects at a march past organised by Shishu Kishore Council, a juvenile organisation, at the university stadium in Mymensingh on the National Victory Day.

—BAU photo

Onion seed crisis in Natore

NATORE, Dec 21: Onion growers in almost six thanas of the district have run into trouble with onion cultivation due to acute seed crisis, reports UNB.

When the farmers are desperately looking for seeds, a section of dishonest traders are selling it at Tk 900-1100 in local markets.

BADC officials attributed the seed crisis to its poor procurement by the farmers as dense fog and occasional rains badly damaged standing onions on a vast track of land this season.

In the wake of the seed crisis, local agriculture office has decided to bring only 1,200 hectares of land under onion cultivation, fixing the output target at 12,000 mts against the usual target of 25,000 mts.

While visiting Gurudaspur, Baraigram and Lalpur thanas, farmers told this correspondent that their onion-growing lands were still lying fallow due to seed crisis.

Haider Ali Mia of Bilmari village in Lalpur thana said he had a good quantity of seeds, but he was forced to sell some of it to support his family during the period of Kartik and Agrahayan when food crisis hit the country's northern region.

The government has set a countrywide target of procuring 73,000 metric tons of paddy and 200,000 metric tons of rice. The procurement rate has been fixed at Tk 8 per kg for paddy and Tk 12.50 per kg for rice.

This year, farmers did not get good production because of unfavourable climate and pest attacks. They are now preparing to cultivate Rabi crops to recoup their losses and selling out Aman paddy and rice at prices less than the production cost.

Aman was cultivated on 1.04 lakh hectares this year in five thanas with production target of 180,300 metric tons of paddy.

As the government procurement drive is delayed, a section of unscrupulous traders are taking advantage by purchasing paddy from the farmers at throwaway prices.

The traders are mainly distributed to hospital.

Five seriously injured were sent to hospital.

Following the incident many distressed people left the scene empty-handed.

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Dec 21: Activists of ruling party-backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and Juba League on Thursday locked in a clash in Kazipur Thana Parishad compound over distribution of dates meant for distressed people, leaving 30 people injured.

The government procurement drive is prevailing all over the northern region. Aman was cultivated on 1,658,375 hectares in 16 northern districts this year, with an output target of 3,160,685 metric tons paddy.

30 hurt in clash over date distribution



A wheat field at Kutamoni in Jamalpur Sadar thana where farmers fear the cultivation target may not be achieved due to seed scarcity.

—Star photo

Wheat output may fall short of target in Jamalpur

From Our Correspondent

JAMALPUR, Dec 21: Wheat production in all the seven

rice stations may fall short of target due to short supply of quality seeds and inadequacy of agricultural loans.

Against a total requirement of 2,000 tons of wheat seeds only 12,5 tons reached the district so far, said officials of the Agriculture Extension Department.

A senior official of the Agriculture Extension Department told that AED have taken up a programme of bringing nearly 1,600 hectares of land under wheat cultivation in seven thanas. The main wheat producing thanas are Sadar, Sarishabari and Islampur where wheat on 1,200 hectares are being cultivated.

Several farmers of Sadar, Islampur and Sarishabari thanas alleged that they were not getting adequate supply of wheat

seed and farm loan in time.

BSS from Mymensingh says an intensive Rabi crop cultivation programme has been taken up in 12 thanas of Mymensingh district in the current season.

According to the Agriculture Extension Department, a total of 2,18,734 hectares are being brought under the programme.

The programme includes cultivation of boro, wheat, potato, sweet potato, mustard, maize, vegetables, sugarcane, pepper, onion, garlic, coriander seed and different kinds of pulses.

Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation will supply high yielding variety of seeds and fertilisers while commercial banks will provide loans to the farmers to make the programme a success.

The annual election of the association was held in the town recently.

Faraji Shahadat Hossain and Mahabub Alam Buchchu were elected to the posts for the fourth and third terms respectively.

Jessore Bar Assoc polls held

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE, Dec 21: Faraji Shahadat Hossain and Mahabub Alam Buchchu have been elected president and general secretary respectively of the district Bar Association.

The annual election of the association was held in the town recently.

Faraji Shahadat Hossain and Mahabub Alam Buchchu were elected to the posts for the fourth and third terms respectively.

Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission

4, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue

PO Box No 158, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh

Fax No 88-02-863051, E-mail: baec@agni.com