SNAPS **Scholarships**

STAR NATIONAL DESK

distributed

Scholarships were distributed among the poor and meritorious students at Jhalkathi Government High School auditorium on Friday.

AKM Hashem-Motia Begum Memorial Educational Fund awarded the scholarships for the ninth consecutive year. Late AKM Hashem's family members donated in the memorial fund which was created in 1995, says a press release.

An Assistant teacher of Jhalkathi Government High School, Sushil Ranjan Borhal presided over the function while Prof M A Khaleque of Nalchhity Degree College was chief guest. Prof Abdul Jabbar, Chief Coordinator of Serve the People Degree College was present as special guest while Kh Khaliluzzaman and Sujit Kanti Bosh, Headmaster of Chamta High School graced the occasion.

Mymensingh **Press Club** committee

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

Advocate Md Mozammel Hague was elected secretary while Md Habibur Rahman Sheikh and Principal Reazul Islam were jointly elected vice presidents of the newly-elected Mymensingh Press Club executive

The committee was formed at the club's annual election held at its auditorium on January 23.

Other office-bearers are: Joint Secretary-Mir Gulam Mustafa. Treasurer Jagadish Chandra Sarker, departmental secretaries Advocate ANM Bazlur Rahman, Md Nazrul Islam, Sultan Uddin Khan and Aminul Haque Jahangir. Members: Dr RR Islam, Professor AZM Mahmudul Hasan, Zillur Rahman Khan and Advocate Md Mosharraf Hossain

Three injured

in Barisal clash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Three people were injured in

clashes over enjoying 'Jatra' without ticket at a village fair in

Andirpar area of Uzirpur Police

were shown in name of 'Jatra' in

this fair, locals and police sources

said. Outlaws are very active in this

ducer of the obscene show and a

leader of Sramik Dal and BNP-

supported outlawed Kamrul group

assaulted Shahid, a nephew of

outlawed Zia group leader

Mainuddin ans his associates on

Friday. This is because they wanted

Wearing masks Shahid and his

to enter the pandal without ticket.

associates ambushed Mizan early

Saturday morning when he was

returning home riding a bicycle

The attackers cut the tendons of

both the legs of Mizan and left him

beside a road. Local people rushed

him to Barisal Sher-e-Bangla

Medical College Hospital in a

Islam of Kamrul group and owner

of the gambling board had a quar-

clashed with each other on

Saturday afternoon, Both Mamun

and Nurul were injured. Nurul was

rushed to the Uzirpur Health

Complex and Mamun was treated

Two separate clashes were

Supporters of both the groups

In another incident Mamun Sikder of Zia group and Nurul

after the 'Jatra' show

critical condition

rel over share of money.

lodged with Uzirpur PS.

students

stipend

their monthly stipend.

the category.

500 female

deprived of

A CORRESPONDENT, Comilla

At least 500 female students of

government and non-government

colleges here are being deprived of

Initially, the authorities con-

cerned asked the principals of non-government colleges to send

colleges. Accordingly, the college principals submitted lists of

female students who are reading in

Class 11 and 12. They also filled up

forms for stipends of female stu-

the college principals received an information that female students

overnment colleges do not fall in

Thirty five students of Comilla Government College and 45 stu-dents of Comilla Women's College

and 420 female students of other colleges in Sadar and other upazilas will be deprived of stipend from January to June of 2002-'03

All on a sudden on January 20

Gambling and obscene dance

Mizanur Rahman Fakir, pro-

'Step down showing respect to people's will'

15-point reflects people's demand, Samad Azad tells Mymensingh AL public meeting





Awami League Presidium member Abdus Samad Azad addressing a public meeting at Mymensingh Town Hall ground on Sunday.

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Awami League leader and former minister Abdus Samad Azad has said his party's 15-point demand reflcts people's wish and urged the government to step down showing respect to this.

The front ranking AL leader was adderssing a public meeting at Mymensingh Town Hall ground on Sunday, arranged by his party's

The BNP- led Four Party Alliance government failed in all sectors he claimed and said sooner it steps down, the better it will be for the people.

past AL government had improved law and order, maintained price stability and enhanced Bangladesgh's image abroad.

He claimed that the immediate

Foreign invesment had

But the scenerio changed after the present government took over as it includes anti-liberation forces. "They believe in politics of

illing and conspiracy. This has brought a slide in the law and order and tarnished the image of the country abroad", he told the meet-

Killings and other crimes have increased, creating a suffocating situation. People now want relief from such a situation, he said.

People have no security of life

and property and they are hard hit due to unabated price spiral of The government wants to cling to power by suppressing the opposition. Its plan to increase the

number of parlaiment seats is a

plea to cover up its failure.

Abdus Samad Azad called upon the people to unite under the banner of Awami League and launch an oust-government.

Presided over by Mymensingh district AL President Principal Motiur Rahman, the meering was also addressed by, among others, central AL leaders Afzalui Rahman Babu, Mahbubul Alam Shakil, B M Mozammel Haque; and district leaders Prof Dr. M Amanullah MP, Altaf Hossair Golandaj, Abdul Matin Sarker MP, Capt. (Redt) Mujib, Nazim Uddin Ahmed, M Shamsul Haque,

Chhatra League leaders Motahar Hossain Litu, Muku Sarker, Nuruzzaman Khokon and Aminul Islam also addressed the

Tk five lakh

donations for

Rashida Mohiuddin.

College principal's room ransacked by JCD

100 shots fired in Manikganj factional feud: 9 hurt, additional police deployed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

A tense situation is prevailing at Manikganj town after Sunday's chase and countrt-chase between rival factions of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) in which about about 100 shots were fired, leaving at least nine people injured, one

The activists rancsacked Manikganj Mahila College principal's room and damaged a comter, telephone and fax machine. Additional police have been

Some JCD activists are fleeing homes, party sources said.

The house of Manikganj corresponent of the Daily Arthonity Aminul Islam also came under attack. The activists sprayed

none was injured, sources said. Two of the injured shop owner Modhu and JCD activist Tota are

about 30 bullets on the door, but

now being treated at Manikganj Sadar Hospital. Modhu was bullet-

All these began at about noon faction, joined by some Juba Dal leaders, held a rally in front of Nanikganj Press Club. JCD Manikganj district unit president Golam Abedin Kayser and Masud Parvez, among others, addressed

After the rally, some activists beat their party rivals who came out from the Mahila College after appearing at the BA examination. Cbnased, they entered the toilet adjoining the college principal's room and closed the collapsible

In presence of police, the guntotting attackers entered the cam-pus and asked the principal to open the collapsible gate. Afraid, the principal opened it.

They entered the principal's

room and ranracked it. Then, as they were trying to break open the toilet door, police swung into action and rescued three JCD leaders Mustafizur Rahman Prince Binoy. The three were escorted home by police. Ohidul Islam Biswas Lotus and

Some hours later, their rivals brought out a procession and proceeded towards the residence Bandatia, who was shot and injured 12 days ago. They fired shots at random for about 10 minutes. They were looking for JCD secretary Showkat Jahangir Rana.

Shop owner Modhu, 45, was bullet-hit in the head, hand and leg in the random firing. He was rushed to Manikganj Sador

At about 6:30 pm on Sunday, JCD leader Tota was injured in attacks by rivals. He was also admitted to Manikganj Sadar

SUST student's treatment STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet. An amouint of Tk five lakh has

been collected through donations for treatmenmt of Shahialal University of Science and Technology (SUST) student Arif Iftekhar, suffering from blood

This was told at a meeting of leaders of all political parties, professional groups and cultural activists, held at Sylhet City Corporation (SCC) conference hall on Sunday night with Mayor Badar Uddin Ahmed the chair.

The meeting decided to send Arif to India immediately for treatement and called for more

A drive has been launched to collect more Tk 15 lakh for this.

Donations will be received by the Mayor and other SCC officials from 12 Noon to 2 PM on January

The meeting formed an 11-member steering committee with SUST Acting VC Prof Mosleh Uddin Ahmed as convener to raise the fund.

Arif's father Abdur Rahim, a schoolteacher at Niguary village in Mymensingh, has also appealed for donations, which can be deposited with the Treatment Fund, Savings Account # 5515, Sonali Bank,

PBCP claims responsibility for Manik

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Outlawed Purba Banglai Communist Party (PBCP-ML Janajuddha) distributed leaflets in Satkhira town Sunday evening claiming responsibility for the murder of journalist Manik Saha in Khulna city.

The leaflets branded Manik Saha as a "yellow journalist" and said he "publish news in favour of exploiters and helped police nab

The leaflets said all journalists are not targets of PBCP. Those who will follow Manik Shah will

Mahmaud.

Private operators force **BRTC** buses off 8 Barisal routes

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Private bus-mimnibus owners and workers forced BRTC buses off eight routes from Barisal city since

Led by the Barisal-Patuakhali Bus-Minibus Owners Association, they also removed BRTC ticket counters from different stands on the same day, sources said.

Barisal City Corporation Mayor Mujibur Rahman Sarwar on Sunday night held a meeting with representatives of BRTC and the Association, but could not resolve

When contacted, Rashid Khan, central organizing secretary of BNP and Ziauddin Sikder, secretary of the Association claimed that the bus owners and workers stopped the service as BRTC violated its agreement with them.

It was agreed that BRTC buses will start from Nathullabad bus stand and not stop at Rupatoli stand for passenger. But they violated the agreement, they claimed.

BRTC Barisal depot manager Md Dulal said its buses stopped about 500 yards off Rupatoli bus stand and a ticket counter was set

up there as per approval of the Mayor. This is not violation of the agreement.

He said a few passengers are found at Nathullabad starting point and the busus have to ply vith a handful of peoeple on board if those do not stop near Rupatoli.

The private operators forcibly stopped the service on this plea to earn more money by making pas-sengers hostage during the Eid, he

The private opetrators are conspiring to close down BRTC service in Barisal, Dulal alleged.

All indigenous people are with you, Shantu Larma tells Garo rally

JAHANGIR ALAM, back from

NETRAKONA: Parbattya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) chief Jotirindria Bodipriya Larma alias Santu Larma has said all indigenous peoples of the country are with the Madhupur Garo people in their fight against the proposed Eco Park to retain their

He was addressing in a rally at Joynagacha GBC School ground in Modhurpur upazila in Tangail on Sunday, arranged to protest the killing of a garo tribesman in police firing on January 3 while protesting construction of a boundary wall for the planned Eco Park in the forest.

Larma said the proposed Eco Park will destroy the ecological balance of Modhupur forest area and displace the Garo people. The plan has been taken up ignoring the indigenous people, who know better than anybody else how to protect the forest resources and develop the area. Such improper planning is threatening the culture and existence of the Garo people. He called upon them to continue their movement.

Larma claimed that the forest minister had promised to build the Eco Park taking the Garo people into confidence, but they were

There will be no park by destroy-

the indigenous people there, he

Larma said indigenous people in other areas of the country are also suffering due to encroach-ment of their lands and rights by vested quarters, often backed by

Pankaj Bottyachargya, Presidium member of Gono Forum, called upon the government to stop the Eco Park project.

Presided over by Ajoy Mree, president of Adibasi Unnayan Parisad, Madhupur, the rally was addressed by, among others, PCJSS General Secretary Chandra Shekhar Chakma, Dhaka University teacher Mesbahuddin and Garo leader Sanjib Drong.





Jhalakati JCD

leader killed,

4 of a family

Saturday night here.

burnt in Barisal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A Jhalakati Chhatra Dal (JCD)

leader was roasted alive and four

members of a family were burnt on

The victim was identified as

Anwar Hossain,22, General

Secretary of Siddhokati union unit

of JCD under Nalchhity upazila in

Family and police sources said,

Anwar was sleeping in his grocery

cum mobile phone shop in

Siddhokati area on the fateful

night. As he failed to come out of

Later, local people recovered

the shop he was roasted alive.

Cheating during degree examination at Barisal Government Women's College centre. Two examinees (left & centre) are seen collecting copies at toilets while an outsider (right) outside the boundary wall preparing copies for supplying inside. The photos were taken on Sunday.

Rangamati admin assures people of security

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

The Rangamati district administration held several meetings with tribesmen and Bangalees in different areas of Borkol and assured them of security of their life and

The move followed killing of two tribal youths on January 9 and 12, which created a panic in the area. The tribesmen alleged that they were killed by Bangalees.

Additional District Magistrate (ADM) SM Emdadul Huque, officials from the upazila administration, police and army personnel moved from village to village and addressed gatherings.

They urged the people to report to the administration and the law enforcers in case of breach of peace or any incident of violence. The administration will promptly take action against the criminals, they

"We could allay fear from the people", the ADM told the Daily Star yesterday.

"The administration will ensure security anyhow because it is their basic right", he said.

He said the main accused in the murder of Nilokdhan Chakma, one of the two youths killed, has been arrested. The killers will be pun-

the body from the shop. He was buried without post-mortem in their family graveyard.

He was the only son of his parents. His father Mokter Hossain went mad after the tragic incident.

Kaem Hossain, Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Nalchhity thana

and Abu Sufian, Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) of the Sadar circle, Jhalakati visited the spot. They apprehended that electric short circuit might be the cause of the incident.

In another incident four members of a family were severely burnt as a kerosene stove got burst at the Passport lane in the city on the

They were identified as Khabiruddin,50, a retired Flight Sergeant, his wife Beauty Begum, 40, and their two daughters Shima,20, and Mukta,16.

Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital where they were advised to be shifted to Dhaka for

PSTU closed sine die?

VC leaves campus

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

The Patuakhali Science and Technology University (PSTU) has been closed. Vice-chancellor Dr. Hannan left the campus Saturday night, campus sources said yesterday.

There is confusion oover the closure. The sources said a notice was hung on the notice board Saturday night, which said the university is closed *sine die*.

But sources close to the VC's office said the university has been closed for Eid-ul-Azha and will

They could not specify any date.

The VC could not be contacted despite repeated attempts.

Agitating PSTU students had been demanidng the VC's "resignation or withdrawal" for alleged misuses of power in appointment of staff. They gave an ultimatum in this regard, which expired on January 23.

Local BNP supports the agitation against the VC, sources said. Some students said that on Sunday morning, they saw class-rooms closed and a sine die closure

The agitation against the VC will continue until his "removal", they

Tk 70 lakh goods looted from trawlers in Bay

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Armed robbers attacked sever fishing trawlers and looted cash and valuables worth Tk 70 lakh in the Bay of Bengal on Monday, according to a fax message received from the International Maritime Bureau

At least 20 fishermen were injured and six of them were admitted to the Patharghata Health Complex.

Pirates also hijacked two trawlers worth Tk 55 lakh with six crew and fishermen. They also threw 10 fishermen into the sea.



Barisal Shikkhok Karmachari Oikya Front, an organisation of teachers and employees, on a token hunger strike on the premises of Aswini Kumar Hall in the divisional city on Sunday to realise its 8-point demand.

SUST branch, Sylhet. Leaflets in Satkhira

Saha murder

their cadres (outlaws)".

be targeted. The leaflets also called upon the people to join PBCP's "fight against classenemies". PBCP has called upon its armed cadres to carry forward its "struggle".

LMG, 3 rifles recovered from outlaw Topu OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia interrogation. Police said they believe Topu is in possession of a

Police have recovered three rifles

and one LMG (light machinegun) from two villages in Jhenidah acting on the confession of Mofazzal Hossain alias Topu, arrested 'commander' of Purbo Banglar Communist Party (ML).

Topu, 38, of Bharatpur village in Jhenidah Sadar upazila, was arrested recently from Barandipara area in Jessore town by a team led by Jhenidah Police uperintendent Abdullah-Al

He made confessions during

ered by digging soil at Kanharpur and Haripur villages, police said. Topu had surrendered with

firearm at Jessore town hall on June 7, 1999 under the general amnesty declared by the then Awami

League government. He got bail in 2002 despite being accused in four cases filed with different police stations in Kushtia, Jhenidah and He then joined PBCP (ML) as a

'commander' in the area

good number of firearms. The four firearms were recov-

All of them were rushed to

better treatment.