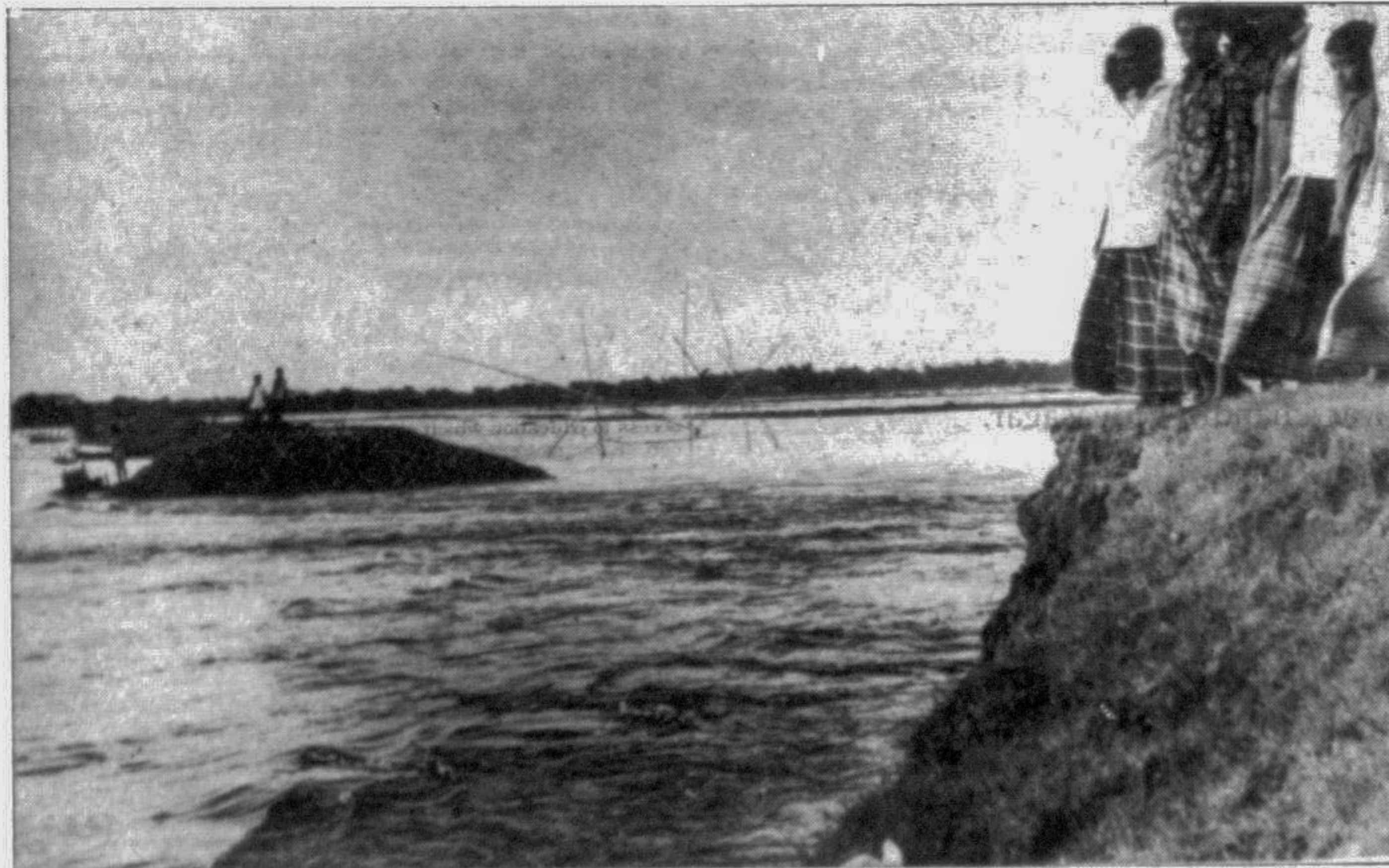


The face of flood



ATPARA: Flood brings sufferings to the tiny fishing village of Guatoli. Renu Bala Devi aboard a fishing boat washing two glasses of brass and one aluminium bowl in the flood water. One of her daughter in law looking after the children of the 12-member family while the other is bringing drinking water from a nearby tubewell. Flood water has inundated all the small shanties of Guatoli where people have taken shelter on the boats. The family of Renu Bala Devi had built one makeshift platform inside the house which has been submerged by the rising level of flood water. Later the family decided to live on boat.



BARAHATTA: People are looking at an embankment which has been washed away by the flood water. People informed that the embankment was not properly built.

50 pc ponds lying uncultivated

Prospect of pisciculture bleak

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, July 28: Production of fish is decreasing day by day in the southern region of the country where fishes can be produced in abundance.

According to Fishery Department sources, more than 1.20 lakh metric tons of fishes are being produced in this region annually. The requirement of the region is about 2000 metric tons.

The source said that there are 1.50 lakh ponds in this region. The cultivation of these ponds can help reduce the shortage of fish of the country.

At present, only 50 to 60 thousand ponds are being used for fish cultivation. The remaining ponds which are big in number remain uncultivated due to absence of necessary renovation and fund, the source disclosed.

There are about 200 hatcheries in the region where lakhs of fish fry are being produced every year. But these are quite insufficient, it is claimed.

The production of fish has also decreased for siltation of rivers and beels.

It can be mentioned here that about 50 lakh fish fry were released in different rivers of the district at the initiative of the government.

The authority concerned should take up steps to protect the fish fry and control the use of current nets to avoid catching of undersized fishes from the rivers and ponds.

9 ADB funded bridges

Nine bridges are being con-

structed with an estimated cost of 9.70 lakh taka in Patuakhali district during the current financial year.

Public Works Department PDB is constructing these bridges with the financial assistance of Asian Development Bank (ADB).

These bridges will be constructed in Patuakhali Sadar thana (4), in Galachipa (2), in Kalapara (1), in Baulal (1) and in Mirjaganj (1).

Cardphone booths installed

Bangladesh T&T Board has installed two cardphone booths, one at Barisal head post office and the other one at the Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital.

These cards of 25 and 100 units are available at the head post office and at the Janata Bank, Barisal branch.

PHE to sink 136 deep tubewells

Public Health Engineering Department (PHE) is sinking 136 deep tubewells with the financial assistance of UNICEF to ensure supply of pure drinking water in the different thana areas of Jhalakathi district during the current financial year.

The tubewells will be installed as follows: 55 in Nalchity, 38 in Kathalia, 24 in Rajapur and 19 tubewells in Jhalakathi Sadar thana area.

Three arrested

Police arrested three persons including a woman with a re-

volver with six rounds of ammunition from Sundardi village of Gournadi thana of the district recently.

According to Gournadi police, one of these three, Delwar

Parasitology annual confce on July 31

MYMENSINGH, July 28: The second annual conference of the Bangladesh Society for Parasitology will be held on July 31 at the auditorium of Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council, Dhaka, reports UNB.

The inaugural session of the conference will be attended by the Deputy Leader of the Jatiya Sangsad Dr A G M Badruddoza Choudhury as chief guest.

The main theme of the conference is Parasitic Zoonoses in Bangladesh. It will be attended by the noted parasitologists of the country, says a press release of the Bangladesh Agricultural University.

Another report adds: The results of B Sc Ag Eon (hons) part two examination of Bangladesh Agricultural University for the year 1991, held in last April, have recently been published.

A total of 46 examinees have been declared as provisionally passed the examination subject to the approval by the BAU syndicate.

Hossein (32) an absconding accused of a murder case was arrested from the Gournadi launchghat, while Abdul Alim Bachu (16) and Safia Khatun (45) were arrested on the same day with a revolver and ammunition following the confession of Delwar Hossein from the house of one Sohjan Sardar of Sundardi village of Bartti union.

Barguna

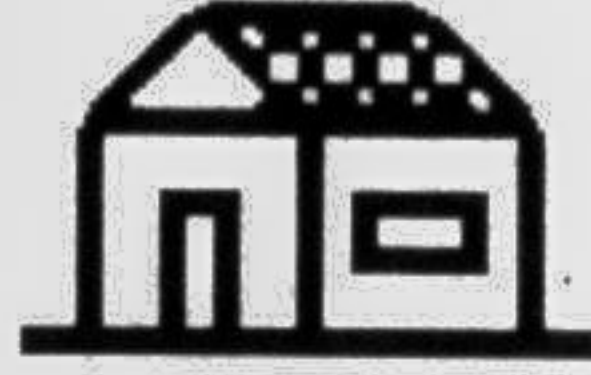
UNB from Barguna says: The prospect of pisciculture in the district is bleak as most of the ponds in all the five thanas have been lying uncultivated for a long time due to lack of proper initiatives.

There are 3,000 ponds in the district. Of them, about 50 per cent have been silted up and dried. Besides, a great number of ponds are full of water hyacinths due to which fish cultivation can not be undertaken.

Local experts said if these ponds are brought under pisciculture in proper way fish worth Taka 10 crore could be produced annually.

Some pisciculturists said if the concerned authorities take steps to introduce scientific methods by arranging training and motivation and provide adequate loan facilities to them they can increase fish production in the district substantially.

They urged the concerned authorities to take proper steps for reexcavating the ponds and provide necessary loan to gear up fish cultivation in the district.



The Daily Star staffers AKM Mohsin and Masud Hasan Khan visited flood-hit Netrakona district on Monday and Tuesday. They were accompanied by our Netrakona Correspondent, Mahbul Kibria Chowdhury, during the visit.

The team visited different parts of Netrakona town and a number of flood-hit unions of Netrakona sadar, Barahatta and Atpara thanas. Netrakona is one of the badly-affected districts by this year's flooding which inundated all the 10 thanas.

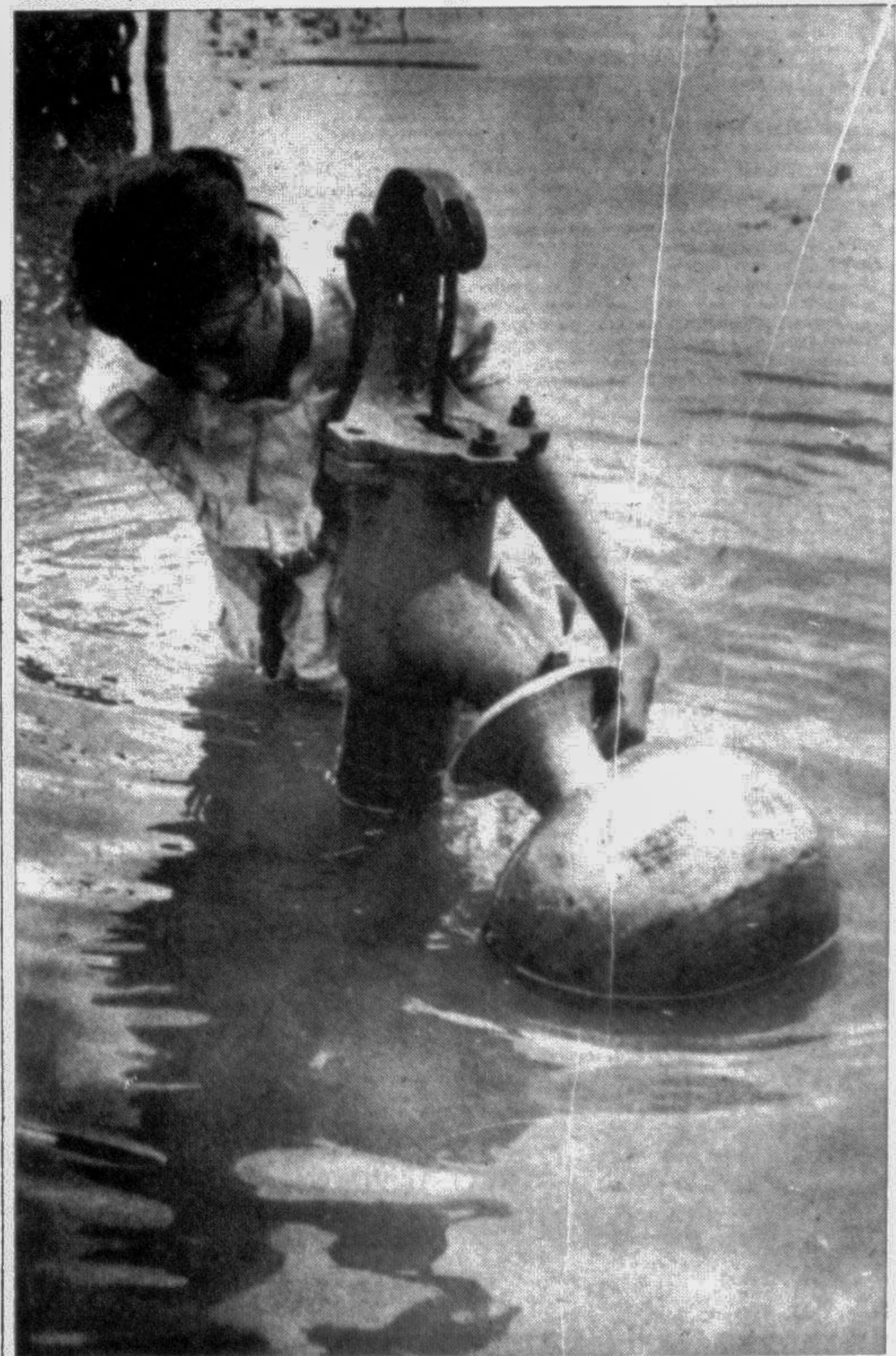
Eleven people have so far died either by snake bite or diarrhoea.

Thousands of people become stranded as their homesteads were submerged by flood waters dislocating their daily lives.

For the flood-hit people of Netrakona, it is a continuous struggle for shelter and succor.



NETRAKONA TOWN: Food-hit people with their household utensils waiting for food at the local Dutta High School at the town. The camp accommodates some 600 people, mostly from the villages around Netrakona. Chira and gur (fried rice and molasses) are the usual diet. Sometimes, khichuri and biscuits are also supplied to them.



NETRAKONA TOWN: Dipali, a girl of the new town area of the district headquarters pumping out drinking water from a half-submerged tubewell. Shortage of pure drinking water at the town as well as other flood-hit thanas has become acute as most of the tubewells have gone under water. Sometimes people are to bring water crossing waist-deep water.

1.65 pry students attending classes

LALMANIRHAT, July 28: A total of one lakh 23 thousand 737 children aged between 6 and 10 have been enrolled in 302 government primary schools and 409 non-government primary schools of the district till the end of the fiscal year, according to an official handout on Saturday, reports BSS.

About 16 thousand children have been dropped out from the schools during the time.

The total number of children who can attend the schools in the district is one lakh 65 thousand 760, out of the total population of nine lakh 64 thousand.

Seminar on human resources of Bangladesh

DHAMRAI, July 28: A seminar on "Human Resources of Bangladesh" was held here at Press Club premises Saturday organised by Bangladesh Village Development Welfare Association, reports UNB.

The speakers stressed the need for transforming the vast population of the country into human resources. The fruits of development is to be equally distributed among all individuals. The speakers also gave emphasis on poverty alleviation through human resource development.

The seminar was organised on the inauguration of a relief and rehabilitation programme by the organisation in the district.

S A Kader Kibria presided the seminar while M A Jallil, Shamsuzzaman, Mahmudur Rashid and Abdul Malek Himel addressed the function.