

## National

## District roundup

## MAJDEE COURT

'Adarsha Grams' in pitiable condition

Sept 10: Two 'Adarsha Grams' (ideal village) of Companyganj thana set up during 1984-85 are in a pitiable condition due to non-implementation of the government programmes, says BSS.

The government established the Adarsha Grams to rehabilitate the landless and distressed people and undertook several schemes to make them self-reliant. But so long they were provided with dwelling houses only.

It may be mentioned here that 200 families in Baradhal and 100 families in Gangchil ideal villages are yet to get two acres of land which was allotted to each of the families for agricultural cultivation, pisciculture, poultry etc. in order to make them self-reliant.

Meanwhile, the ideal villages have been badly affected by heavy downpour during the last one month disrupting the communication system and paralysing the normal life.

It is learnt that adult literacy, family planning, tree planting and income generating programmes are yet to start in the villages.

## RAJSHAHI

Work on modern hatchery progressing fast

Sept 10: Work on a modern hatchery on 50 acres of land at Parbatipur at a cost of Taka fifteen crore is progressing fast, reports BSS.

An official source said that the project financed by the Overseas Development Agency (ODA) under north west fisheries development programme will be completed next year.

The main objective of the project will be to supply quality fingerlings.

Fisheries department has released two hundred metric tons of fish fry in Halti and Hilsa beels in greater Rajshahi district during the last two months.

The source said that under the third fisheries development programme the government will spend Taka two hundred crore in northern region for increasing fish production.

## CHITTAGONG

Huge quantity of hilsha rotting for want of storage

Sept 10: A huge quantity of hilsha fish are being rotten at the coastal belts in Sitakundu thana, some 30 km off the city, due to lack of storage and marketing facilities, reports BSS.

It is learnt that favourable weather and heavy rainfall have enabled the fishermen to catch huge number of hilsha fish during the current season.

However, due to lack of storage facilities a huge quantity of the catch have already rotten and became unfit for human consumption. Moreover, in the absence of marketing facilities the fishermen are deprived of fair prices of the fish.

Hilsha is learnt to be selling between Taka 400 and 500 per maund at the coastal belts of Sitakundu while it is scarce in the city where the fish is being sold between Taka 60 and 70 per kg.

A local UP Chairman, Mahiuddin Ahmed, said the fishermen are sure to incur a loss of Taka one crore within next few days if cold storages and ice factories are not set up here on an emergency basis to protect the catch from being rotten.

MYMENSINGH

30 projects completed under town uplift programme

Sept 10: Mymensingh pourashava completed works on thirty projects under secondary town infrastructural development programme during the last financial year, reports BSS.

Official source said that the project cost the pourashava about Taka two crore which is a part of Taka twenty three crore allocated for the municipality under a five year plan.

The projects included reconstruction of roads and drains, development of slums, Natun Bazar and Masua Bazar, purchase of land and street lighting.

Official sources said that a sum of over Taka four crore would be spent for the development of Mymensingh pourashava during the current year.

## GAIBANDHA

Youth killed in tragic train accident

Sept 10: A youth was killed under the wheels of a running train when he fell down from its rooftop on Monday near Gaibandha Railway Station.

The victim was identified as Azizul Haque (17) of village Dhopadanga in Sundarganj thana. His hands and legs were cut off by the train.

According to police, Azizul met the tragic end of life when he was hit by the extended portion of the shed of the Railway Station in the morning.

## COX'S BAZAR

Educationist dead

Sept 10: Noted educationist Principal SAM Shamsul Huda Chowdhury died of prolonged illness in the early hours of Monday last, family sources said here Wednesday. He was 73, reports BSS.

Late Chowdhury left behind his wife, seven sons, five daughters, large number of relatives, students and well-wishers to mourn his death.

The Namaz-e-Janaza of late Chowdhury was held at the public hall maidan after Jorh prayer Tuesday and he was buried at Bodarmokam graveyard at Cox's Bazar.

A founder principal of Cox's Bazar college, Cox's Bazar Law College and former chairman of Cox's Bazar municipality, late Shamsul Huda Chowdhury was associated with a large number of socio-cultural literary organisations.

Leaders of different organisations in separate statements condoled the death of Shamsul Huda Chowdhury that included Cox's Bazar press club, district bar association, Awami League, BNP and Udichi and Chakaria samity in Chittagong.

## RAJBARI

Workshop on sanitation, pure water

Sept 10: A one-day regional workshop, organised by NGOs Forum, on pure water and sanitation facilities was held at the local Shilpakala Academy, reported UNB.

The workshop aimed at extending cooperation for improvement of health-care facilities to the rural people was held on Aug 30.

Additional Deputy Commissioner of the district Abu Nasir Ahmed attended it as chief guest while Director of Karmajibi Kalyan Sangstha Fakir Abdur Jabbar presided.

It was addressed, among others, by Abdul Karim, Suresh Chandra Hawlader, Azharul Islam, Arun Kumar Shahi, Subhash Singh, President of the local Press Club ATM Rafiq Uddin and president of Sangbadik Samity Mohammad Sanaullah.

The speakers stressed the need for better coordination among government, non-government and concerned sector agencies to implement the uplift programme.

A total of 30 representatives from 23 different agencies of five districts in greater Faridpur participated in the workshop.

## TANGAIL

Tk 35 lakh easy term loans for poor

Sept 10: Social welfare department, Tangail has taken up a programme to distribute an easy-term loan worth Taka thirty-five lakh among the poor people of six thanas of the district in this financial year, reports BSS.

Official source said that the loan would be distributed to make them self-reliant.

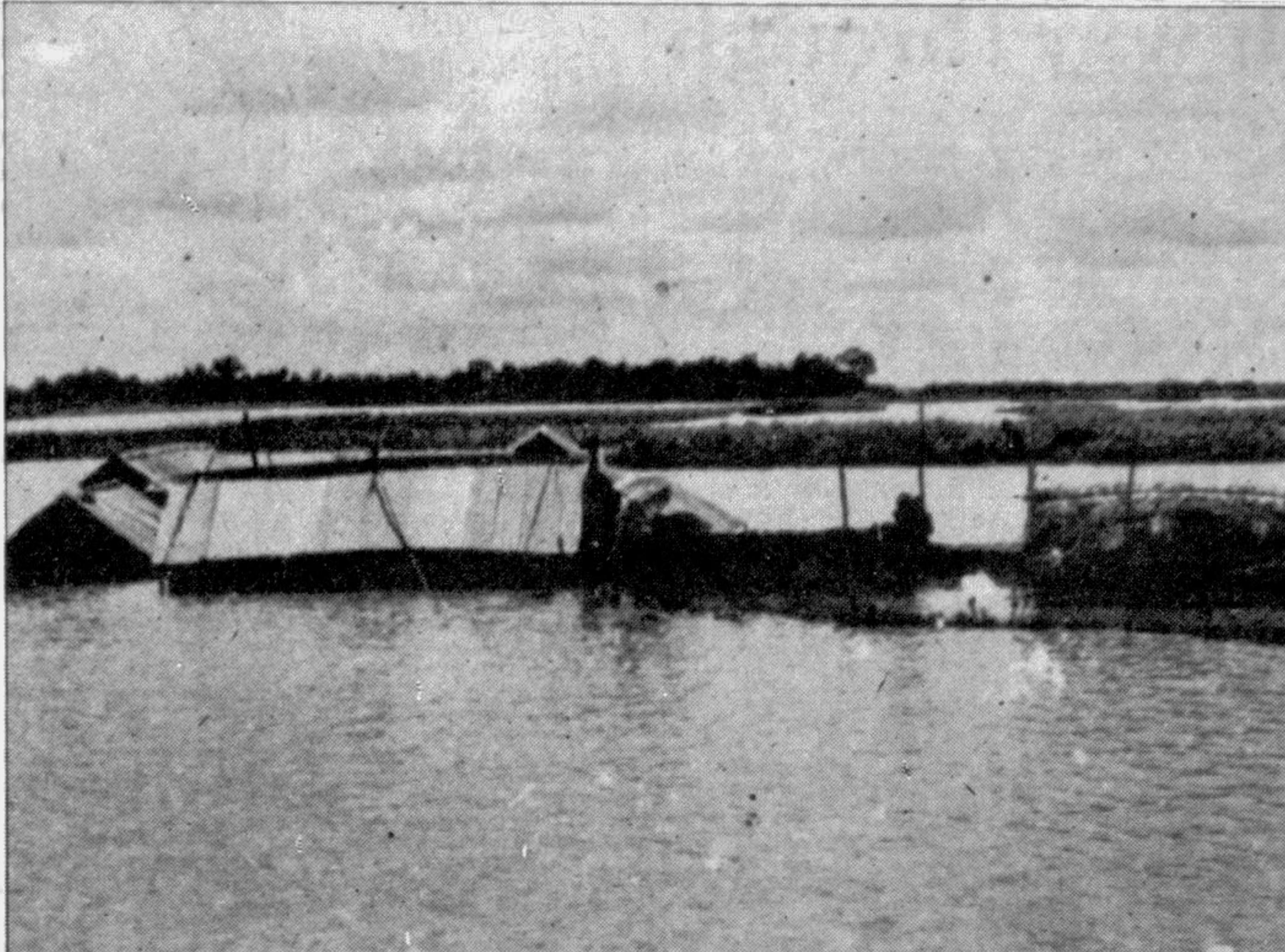
The thanas to be covered are Kalijhati, Bhuapur, Shakhipur, Ghatal, Madhupur and Mirzapur.

## KHULNA

Seminar on low cost solar mapping

Sept 10: A seminar on low cost solar mapping over large geographical area was held here recently under auspices of Khulna Centre of the Engineers' Institution of Bangladesh, reported BSS.

It was presided over by the President of Khulna Centre of the Engineers' Institution and Director of BIT, Khulna. The key note paper on the subject was presented by Professor Dr Mohammad Rafiqul Islam of BIT, Khulna.



SIRAJGANJ: A flood affected house at village Chatiantali in sadar thana.

— Star photo

## Tk 300cr project to boost agricultural production

From Our Correspondent

SYLHET, Sept 10: The work on an ambitious project to increase the agricultural production through improved irrigation system and management has been started in six districts of the north-eastern region of the country.

The districts are: Sylhet, Sunamganj, Moulvibazar, Habiganj, Netrakona and Kishoreganj.

The 300-crore Taka project 'North-East Minor Irrigation Project' is being financed by the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

The Department of Agriculture Extension, Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) and Bangladesh Bank had been entrusted with the task of execution of the project.

Under the project, special loans will be arranged for improvement of the small irrigation systems. Power tillers and irrigation equipment would be supplied to the farmers on loan.

These would be collected from the traders. The traders of

these machineries.

The programme also includes improvement of the rural infrastructure and the communication system. The Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) had been entrusted with the task of developing the rural roads and feeder roads connecting the growth centres in the remote areas with a view to ensuring the farmers of agricultural products.

The LGED will construct 40 per cent of the B-type feeder roads and 60 per cent of the rural roads in six districts under the project. The total length of the roads, culverts and bridges would stand at 6,000 metres.

Initial works on the project, like selection of the sites for demonstration plots, test boring of shallow tube wells and infrastructure have already been started, informed an official source.

The whole project is expected to be completed within a period of six years, the source added.

## Paddy selling below output cost

From Our Correspondent

HABIGANJ, Sept 10: The farmers of the district have been facing losses due to the low price of paddy in the local markets.

Some farmers informed that paddy is now selling between Taka 100 and Taka 110 whereas the production cost per maund is Taka 250.

The absence of government purchasing centres to procure IRRI-bred paddy has helped the fall of paddy prices.

The farmers of the district are becoming debt-ridden as they are unable to repay the loan after selling their products.

If this situation continues, the farmers will become destitutes in the near future, social workers expressed.

Diarrhoea and dysentery have so far claimed 19 lives and attacked 2000 more in different places of the district during the last few weeks.

Unofficial sources informed that the diarrhoea death toll would be 45. The number of diarrhoea patients would stand at more than 3000.

When contacted, the Civil

Surgeon informed this correspondent that 46 doctors in 84 medical teams have been working in the affected areas.

Scarcity of fish has been prevailing in the local markets for the last several months causing inconveniences to the people.

Local people informed that fish like, pabda, bowal, gonya, gusai, shawi, gola, kai, lassow which were abundantly available in this season are rarely found in the markets.

Fish was caught abundantly from the vast haor and beel areas of the district but due to lack of initiative and maintenance the output has become to an all time low inspite of burning fish crisis. No administrative measures have taken up to cultivate fish in these areas in scientific method.

Moreover, fish in the rivers, canals and other water bodies are also very scarce.

An official source said, massive siltation of the water bodies, indiscriminate use of pesticides and rapid growth of population have reduced the fish produc-

tion in the district.

In every season some unscrupulous fishermen violating prohibition are found catching fish fry indiscriminately and are seen selling those in the different markets before the law enforcement agencies.

Local people have urged the concerned authorities to take up a massive scheme to make the district self-sufficient in fish.

The main pucca roads of Habiganj town are in dilapidated condition causing difficulties to the pedestrians and vehicular traffic for the last several months.

Due to lack of proper maintenance and repair cracks and pathol have developed at many points of the roads.

The roads become muddy and go under knee-deep water after slight rainfall due to lack of proper drainage system, causing sufferings to the people.

The town dwellers have urged the authorities concerned to take immediate steps for repairing the roads to redress the sufferings of the people.



GAZIPUR: The local artistes are rendering songs at a function arranged here on the 17th death anniversary of national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam.

— Star photo

## Mini industrial zone at Mongla soon

KHULNA, Sept 10: Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman visited the proposed site for the establishment of industries under joint collaboration between private enterprises of Bangladesh and the USA adjacent to Mongla Port on Tuesday, reports BSS.

During the visit the Foreign Minister was accompanied by the members of site selection committee of the Investment Board under Prime Minister's Secretariat.

The committee members included Khademul Islam, Joint Secretary Ministry of Energy, Tofail Ahmed Chowdhury, Joint Secretary Ministry of Shipping, representatives of concerned companies,

chairman of Mongla Port Authority Md Rezwana Haque, Deputy Commissioner of Bagerhat District Fazlur Rahman Khan, and president of Bagerhat District BNP Barrister Kazi A T Monwaruddin were present on the occasion.

It may be mentioned here that about Taka six thousand crore will be invested for setting up of this mini industrial zone consisting of eight units of different types of industries for which employment opportunities of about three lakh seventy-five thousand persons will be generated when fully established.

The education secretary was speaking at a seminar on 'eradication of poverty and education' held on Monday at the Khulna officers club auditorium.

Presided over by the Deputy Commissioner of Khulna Kazi Reasul Haque, the seminar was addressed, among others, by Vice Chancellor of Khulna University Professor Dr Golam Ali Fakir, Khulna, Divisional Commissioner, Abdul Muktadir Chowdhury, Maleka Begum of Khulna Coronation Government Girls High School, President and Vice-President of Khulna District Teachers Association Narayan Chandra Dey and Abdur Rashid.

The education secretary said that education is the main prerequisite for any development. Our teaching community and the guardians have to jointly play a vital role, he said.

## PDB realises Tk 22 lakh from Patuakhali, Barguna

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Sept 10: Power Development Board (PDB) transmission division in Patuakhali has realised more than 22.20 lakh taka from four thanas of the district.

A correspondent from Patuakhali informed that 1.60 lakh taka has been realised so far from Patuakhali sadar, about 5.36 lakh taka from Golachipa thana, more than 6.50 lakh taka from Khepupara thana and about 8.70 lakh taka from Baufal thana of the district during the last fiscal year.

A huge amount of outstanding electric bills are still unrealised. In Patuakhali sadar the amount stands at 1.06 crore taka, 34.50 lakh taka in Khepupara thana and about 23 lakh taka in Baufal thana of the district.

A correspondent from Borguna adds that realisation of electric bills in two thanas, sadar and Betagi, stands at 12.25 lakh taka and 5.42 lakh taka respectively while outstanding bills in these two thanas are 21.50 lakh taka and 14.83 lakh taka respectively.

Out of the total works on four canals in sadar thana, three in Nesarabad, three in Kawkhali, four in Nazirpur and four in Mathbaria thana have already been completed during last financial year.

A correspondent from Borguna adds that realisation of electric bills in two thanas, sadar and Betagi, stands at 12.25 lakh taka and 5.42 lakh taka respectively while outstanding bills in these two thanas are 21.50 lakh taka and 14.83 lakh taka respectively.

A correspondent from Borguna adds that realisation of electric bills in two thanas, sadar and Betagi, stands at 12.25 lakh taka and 5.42 lakh taka respectively while outstanding bills in these two thanas are 21.50 lakh taka and 14.83 lakh taka respectively.

A correspondent from Borguna adds that realisation of electric bills in two thanas, sadar and Betagi, stands at 12.25 lakh taka and 5.42 lakh taka respectively while outstanding bills in these two thanas are 21.50 lakh taka and 14.83 lakh taka respectively.

A correspondent from Borguna adds that realisation of electric bills in two thanas, sadar and Betagi, stands at 12.25 lakh taka and 5.42 lakh taka respectively while outstanding bills in these two thanas are 21.50 lakh taka and 14.83 lakh taka respectively.

A correspondent from Borguna adds that realisation of electric bills in two thanas, sadar and Betagi, stands at 12.25 lakh taka and 5.42 lakh taka respectively while outstanding bills in these two thanas are 21.50 lakh taka and 14.83 lakh taka respectively.

A correspondent from Borguna adds that realisation of electric bills in two thanas, sadar and Betagi, stands at 12.25 lakh taka and 5.42 lakh taka respectively while outstanding bills in these two thanas are 21.50 lakh taka and 14.83 lakh taka respectively.