

Notes From
Moulvibazar

From Our Correspondent

MOULVIBAZAR, May 9: Two separate dacoities were committed in Moulvibazar sadar thana recently.

According to police, a gang of armed dacoits numbering about 20 to 25 raided the residence of one Abdul Musabbir of village Barshijura, near Moulvibazar district town and decamped with cash money, gold ornaments, clothes worth about Taka 21 lakh. The dacoits possessed fire arms and other lethal weapons who entered the house by breaking the door.

In another dacoity, a gang of armed men attacked the house of one Makhbul Ali of village Radhakantapur under Giusnagar union of sadar thana at midnight recently.

They took away one licensed shot gun, cash money and gold worth Taka two lakh.

Separate cases have been lodged with Moulvibazar sadar thana.

Ban on student
politics

Rajnagar Degree College authority of the district has imposed an order of prohibition on students politics in college campus for the next two years.

The order was given after a meeting of college managing body with guardians, and leaders of different political and students organisations, which was held at college auditorium recently with principal of the college, Kuresh Khan in the chair.

An agreement paper was also signed by principal and leaders of different student organisations in this regard. The students organisations which will abide by the agreement papers are: Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, Bangladesh Chhatra League (M-I), Bangladesh Chhatra League (B-K) and Islami Chhatra Shibir.

It may be mentioned here that the college was closed sine die three weeks ago following a clash between Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal and Bangladesh Chhatra League which left at least 3 injured.

120 cft of timber
recovered

Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) seized about 120 cubic feet of segun timber worth about Taka one lakh from Monu Railway Station under Kulaura thana recently.

It is learnt, during the visit of BDR Battalion Commander to border belts of Kulaura thana, the BDR personnel raided platform of Monu Railway Station and seized the said timber. The BDR sources said, the timber was brought at the station by smugglers for booking in Surma mail train.

Booking clerk of the station and local people were present during the seizure, BDR source said.

A case has been filed with Kulaura thana. However no one was arrested.

College guardians'
election held

Election of the guardians representatives for the managing body of Moulvibazar Womens' College was held recently.

Guardians of the students of the college elected four representatives by direct voting. The elected guardians are, Shaquiatul Wahed, Syed Kefayat Ullah, Syed Khademul Islam and Mustafizur Rahman.

A total of 220 guardians out of 595 have cast their votes. A total of 10 candidates were contesting for the posts.

Apu memorial
council formed

The Apu Smriti Sangsad (memorial council) has been formed here to up hold the ideals of late young Communist leader Apu Debroy.

A meeting was held recently to form the council at local office of Bangladesh Communist Party with district CPB Secretary Syed Abu Zafar Ahmed in the chair.

A nine member executive committee was formed for Apu Smriti Sangsad with Poursava Commissioner Abu Md Yashya Mujahid as president and Asaduzzaman Akhand as general secretary.

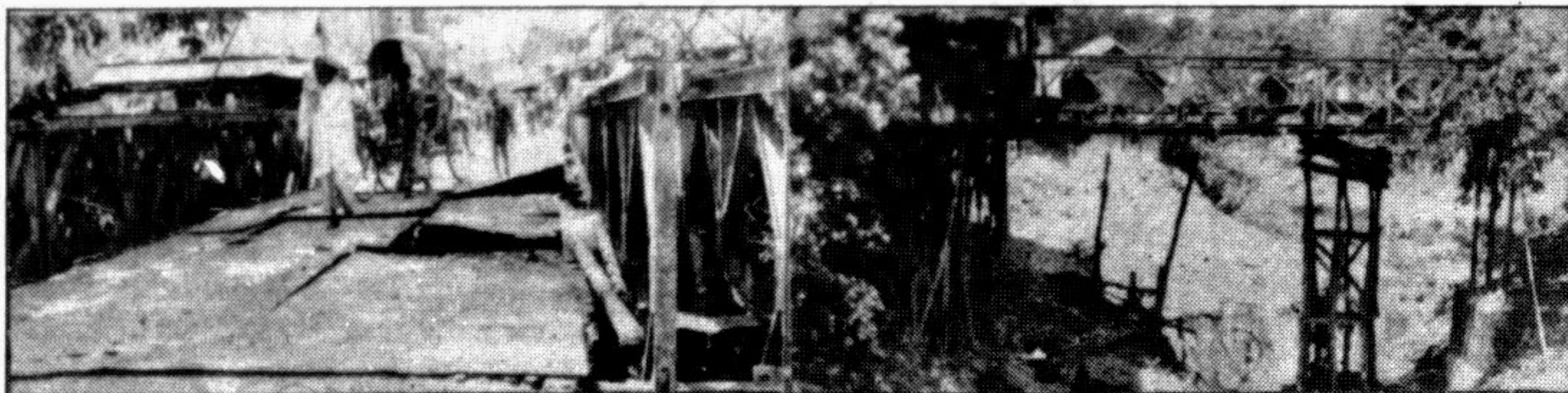
It may be mentioned here that Apu Debroy, a young Communist leader who held the position of secretary of CPB in the district died of a road accident recently.

Apu Smriti Sangsad in its first meeting has also decided to award scholarships every year in memory of late Apu Debroy.

JCD biennial
conference held

The biennial conference of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), Rajnagar thana unit was held at Rajnagar community centre recently.

The conference was presided over by thana JCD president Md Selim Ahmed while district JCD president Ashik Musharraf attended as chief guest. The conference was addressed among others by JCD leaders, Mahmudur Rahman, Ashrafuzzaman, Enamul Hoque, Abul Hussain and Sibbir Khan.



SYLHET: Hundreds of pedestrians including rickshaws cross this bridge at Kazirbazar area in district town everyday. The support of the bridge is in very poor condition which may collapse any time. — Star photo

Tk 29 cr uplift scheme for
edn institution in Sylhet

From Our Correspondent

SYLHET, May 9: A scheme has been taken up for development of a total of 388 educational institutions of four districts in the greater Sylhet region. An amount of Tk 28 crore 82 lakh 50 thousand would be spent for the purpose during the current financial year (1993-94).

An official source informed this correspondent that, under the programme, six high schools would be developed in each of the 35 thanas in the four districts. Tk seven lakh 81 thousand 669 will be spent for each of the schools. Under the revenue fund, one high school will be developed in each thana in the first phase while in the second phase, one school will be developed in each thana. Under the programme, one madrasah will also be developed in each of the 35 thanas with the assistance from Asian Development Bank (ADB). The bank will also provide funds for development of one girls high school in each

of the 35 thanas in the four districts, the sources added.

The ADB will also extend financial assistance for construction of academic buildings in 5 intermediate colleges with an approximate amount of Tk 40 lakh 80 thousand for each.

The colleges selected are, Biswanath College and Jaintapur College in Sylhet, Deraul College and Jagannathpur College in Sunamganj, and Madhampur College in Habiganj district. Ten other colleges will also be developed with an estimated expenditure of Tk 25 lakh for each one. The colleges are — Tajpur Degree College, Mainuddin Mohila College and Fenchuganj College in Sylhet, Sunamganj Mohila College in Sunamganj, Kulaura Degree College, Baralekha Degree College and Komolganj Degree College in Moulvibazar and Baniachang Jonab Ali Degree College in Habiganj district.

Under the Flood Reha-

bilitation Programme, new buildings will be constructed in two primary schools in the region. Tk 4 lakh 20 thousand will be spent for each of these schools. Forty-one primary schools will be repaired at an expenditure of Tk one crore 25 lakh, while another amount of Tk 9 lakh 30 thousand will be spent for 14 primary schools under the revenue fund.

Besides, under the Annual Development Programme, 18 primary schools will be reconstructed. Tk 4 lakh 20 thousand is expected to be spent for each of these schools.

Twenty more schools will be developed with an estimated expenditure of Tk 2 lakh 50 thousand for each one while 15 other schools have also been taken up for repair works with an expected expenditure of Tk 65 thousand each. These schools will also be supplied with furniture worth Tk 25 thousand, the source informed.

Property worth Tk 5 lakh
gutted in Habiganj

From Our Correspondent

HABIGANJ, May 9: At least three shops were gutted and property worth about Taka 5 lakh burnt into ashes in a devastating fire incident at Meerpur Bazar about 10 miles off from Habiganj sadar on April 27.

Witnesses said, fire originated from a laundry of the market and engulfed the adjacent shops including an ice cream factory.

Dulal Mia, a businessman of the bazar informed the fire brigade authority, Habiganj about the incident over telephone from Bahubal but the fire brigade could not reach the spot timely and the angry people of the area attacked the fire brigade personnel at Meerpur Bazar. Sayefuddin TNO Bahubal visited the spot. According to preliminary estimate property of ice cream factory worth about Tk 2 lakh 75 thousand, property of the timber shop of one Rajab Ali worth about Tk 85 thousands, property of laundry worth about Tk 75 thousands and Tk 65 thousands of the shops of Abdus Samad and others were burnt.

At least four persons were killed and 55 others injured in two separate road accidents on Dhaka-Sylhet highway near Chunerughat thana about 15 miles off from Habiganj sadar.

Police and witnesses said, on April 30 at around 9 am a tragic road accident occurred in front of a bridge near Chunerughat Bazar when a Madhabpur-bound passenger's bus No Chattagram — Ja 1163 from Habiganj collided with a truck No Comilla — Ta 4290 coming from opposite direction. As a result 2 persons were killed on the spot, another 25 injured. Of them condition of one Debendra Dutta (65) of Noya Sarak, Sylhet was critical.

The injured persons were taken to Chunerughat Hospital. The deceaseds were identified as (1) Abdus Shahid of village

Gopalpur and (2) Zamsed of village Durgapur under Chunerughat thana.

A case was filed with Chunerughat police. Police seized the vehicles but the drivers managed to escape.

Another road accident occurred at Kutirganj under Chunerughat thana on the Dhaka-Sylhet highway.

Witnesses said, on May 1 in the morning, the accident occurred when a Sylhet-bound passengers' bus No Comilla-05405 from Chandina under Comilla district hit a road side tree after the driver lost its control.

As a result one Tazul Islam

Surprise checking
in west zone of
rly from July 15

PAKSHI, May 9: Communications Minister Oli Ahmed here yesterday said railway had no option but to go ahead as there was no scope to move backward, reports BSS.

Addressing the officers of Pakshi Division of Bangladesh Railway he said the factors impeding Bangladesh Railway to regain its lost heritage was not dearth of resources, but honesty, sincerity and sense of belongingness.

Oli Ahmed said from now the officers and personnel holding managerial responsibility would be held responsible for any lethargy or lacuna in running the railway as a service oriented commercial organisation.

The minister said the government was committed to bring back discipline in the railway.

Local MP Serajul Islam Sardar, general manager Abdur Rahim and chief engineer Md Samsur Rahman of western railway zone and railway manager of Pakshi Division AM Mustafizur Rahman were present on the occasion.

(20) of village Beerkhal under Chandina thana killed on the spot and 30 persons were injured.

The injured persons were taken to Habiganj sadar hospital, of them one injured Abdus Sobhah (50) of village Hath Baria under Kochuwa thana succumbed to his injuries in hospital.

A case was lodged with concerned police. Police seized the bus but the driver managed to escape.

It may be mentioned here that road accidents here on the Dhaka-Sylhet highway is frequent causing panic among the people.

Several road mishaps occurred during the last few months, claimed the lives of a number of people and injured hundreds of passengers.

The main causes of the road accidents were overloading of passengers and goods, reckless driving, plying of worn out vehicles, driving by the inexperienced men, overtaking and violation of traffic rules.

Another reason of the frequent accidents was said to be the absence of strict implementation of the law for compensation of victims by the owners of the vehicles.

A five day long handball coaching camp sponsored by Habiganj district sports office concluded here recently.

In this connection a function was held at local sports association auditorium. Advocate Abdul Motin Khan, Secretary District Krira Sangstha presided over the function while Mofazzal Hussain Khan, ADC (General), Habiganj attended as chief guest.

Monoranjan Dey, district sports officer, Advocate Mansuruddin Ahmed Iqbal, president Habiganj press club and others addressed the function.

Later Mr Mofazzal Hussain Khan, ADC (General), Habiganj gave away the certificates among trainees.

Foundation stone
of college laid
in Rajbari

RAJBARI, May 9: State Minister of Cultural Affairs Prof Jahan-Ara Begum yesterday sought cooperation from all concerned to implement the programme "education for all", reports BSS.

She was addressing a gathering of students, teachers and guardians at the Maspara College premises at Pangsha here.

Dahagram, Angarpota enclaves
beset with problems

From Our Correspondent

RANGPUR, May 9: The long-standing problems of the Dahagram-Angarpota enclaves are yet to be solved.

The present population of the enclaves is around 15 thousand. As per 1910 survey report its total area is 18.68 square kilometres with 4.616 thousand acres of land.

After 1910, not a single plot of land was sold through registered deeds due to unknown reasons.

Of the total population, about 70% are illiterate. At present, there are 10 educational institutions running in these enclaves. They are: four government and four non-government primary schools,

one junior high school and one madrasah.

There are 10 mosques and three temples in it.

Both pucca and kacha roads need immediate repair.

The conditions of the educational institutions and mosques, temples are also beyond description.

The devastating erosion of the river Teesta had already devoured 25% area of the enclaves rendering thousands of people homeless.

The medical facilities are quite absent there. A 10-bed hospital cum health centre which was being constructed at a cost of Taka 63 lakh has been left incomplete for about one year.

Bus services
suspended,
passengers
suffer

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, May 9: Coach service has been suspended in Jhenidah-Kushtia route since Friday.

According to reports, following an incident quarrel took place between vehicles sramik leaders of Jhenidah and Kushtia. At one stage on Thursday a driver and helper of Jhenidah were beaten by the motor sramik workers of Kushtia. As a result, thousands of passengers have been suffering since Thursday, due to strike called by the motor sramik union of Jhenidah.

Rampant lifting
of cattle

Rampant lifting of cattle and flaying their skin had caused widespread panic among the farmers of greater Rangpur zone for some time.

According to the allegations, a section of cobblers in collaboration with the miscreants had resorted to lifting the cattle for flaying and selling them at high prices.

Many farmers have already been turned pauper following lifting of their cattle and they can't grow crops in their lands as such.

The worst affected areas are Badarganj, Mithapukur, Fulchhari, Shaghatta, Ulipur, Chilmari, Patgram, Kishoreganj and Saidpur thanas in the zone.



RANGPUR: A stolen motor cycle was recovered and six persons, believed to have stolen the vehicle, were arrested recently. Police believe, an organised gang is engaged in this kind of activities in the town area of the district. —Star photo

Handloom industries
face extinction

MAIJDEE COURT (Noakhali), May 9: Handloom industries in different thanas of the district are on the verge of extinction due to lack of capital and high prices of necessary inputs, reports UNB.

Moreover, price spiral of raw materials like yarn, dyes, influx of Indian sarees, lungis and lack of market facilities have thrown the weavers into difficulties who are facing hard days in continuing their age-old occupation.

According to official sources, at least 50,000 handlooms in Begumganj, Sadar, Companiganj, Chakhill and Senbag thanas have been closed during the last 20 years which is about 80 per cent of the total.

At present the local handloom products are seldom available in the market and the weavers do not move in the rural villages with their products like lungi, saree etc, carrying on their shoulders, to meet the demand of the people.

During the last few years, the prices of raw materials have been increased several times giving rise to cost of production which is beyond the purchasing capacity of the common people.

The weavers said the smuggled Indian sarees and lungis have captured the local markets forcing them to close down their handloom in many areas as these are available at comparatively cheap prices.

Two medium-size textile mills were set up in Maijdee Court with the financial assistance from the Sonali Bank six years back but both the mills remained closed for the last

District roundup

GAZIPUR

Priority given
to promotion
of education

May 9: State Minister for Science and Technology Prof M A Mannan said in Tongi yesterday the government has given priority to the promotion of the education and allocated about Taka three thousand crore in education, reports UNB.

The State Minister was addressing a meeting in Tongi Government College auditorium organised on the occasion of the foundation laying ceremony of the science building of the college.

Presided over by Principal of the college Mozammel Haque the meeting was also addressed, among others, by Tongi BNP Thana president Md Abdul Awal, ex-MP Kazi Mozammel Hossain, Administrator of Tongi Municipality Samsur Rahman Khan and vice-principal Farida Hasan.

The State Minister said government has also given priority to the female education and made education free upto class VIII for female students outside the municipal area.

Later, the State Minister laid the foundation stone of science building of Tongi Government College.

NAOGAON

Accommodation
problems

May 9: Female students of the district town and adjoining areas have been facing acute problems in the absence of hostels in their respective educational institutions, says UNB.

There are two government colleges including one women's college and one private college and four girls' high schools including one government girls' school in the town. There is only one hostel in the government girls' college.

The female students who come from remote areas are facing serious difficulties due to lack of accommodation facilities in their respective institutions.

Most of the guardians who send their girls to the district town for better education are to arrange accommodation for them somewhere else near the institution.

Local people urged the concerned authorities to construct at least four hostels in the town to mitigate the sufferings of the students.

JESSORE

Tk 1.65 cr for
construction of
non-govt colleges

May 9: The facilities department of the Ministry of Education will construct four non-government intermediate college buildings in Jessore region during the current fiscal year at a total cost of Tk 1.65 crore, reports BSS.

These buildings, each a three-storied house, will be constructed at Rajganj College and Bhabadhar College in Jessore, Narail Mahila College and Magura Mahila College.

Besides construction of the Principal's quarters of Narail Victoria College at a cost of Tk 11 lakh and extension of class room in Harinakunda Lalan Shah College at Tk 10 lakh will also be undertaken very soon by the department, official sources said.

Construction of science buildings for Jessore City College and Magura Hussein Shahid Suhrawardy College each at an estimated cost of Tk 43 lakh will be undertaken by the Facilities Department very soon.

BARISAL

Tk 79 lakh Edn
Complex being
constructed

May 9: A four-storied regional education complex is being constructed in the Barisal town at an allocation of Tk 79 lakh, reports BSS.

According to an official source, this complex will provide accommodation for the office of Deputy director (secondary and higher education), Facilities Department of the Ministry of Education and District Education Officer.

Meanwhile, about 25 per cent of the work has been completed at a cost of Tk 22 lakh.

Facilities Department of the Ministry of Education has been implementing the project, the source added.

Besides, the department will construct vertical extension of the existing chemistry building of the government Brojomohun University College at a cost of Tk 25 lakh.

Work on this project will start soon, the source said.

CHANDPUR

Sixteen pirates
arrested

May 9: Chandpur river police arrested sixteen pirates from the river Meghna recently, reports BSS.

These pirates were involved in inter-district launch dacoities. The pirates were going to Dhaka by an engine boat. Police on secret information followed them by a speed boat and caught them near Kanudi Bazar on the river Meghna. Before arrest, the pirates threw some arms and ammunition in the river Meghna.

Police recovered some ammunition and looted goods from the pirates.

A case was registered at Chandpur Police Station.

JAMALPUR

Fish output
declines

May 9: Fish scarcity has been prevailing in the district due to sudden fall in production in different waterbodies, says UNB.

Local people said the fish market of the district which was once famous for various species of fish has now lost its attraction.

The fishermen used to catch hundreds of tons of fish like ruih, katla, pangus, boal etc from different waterbodies and rivers of Brahmaputra, Jamuna, Jhinai, Jhingam.

Due to lack of proper care and maintenance like re-excavation of the waterbodies, feeding of fish by following the proper procedures most of the waterbodies in both government and private ownership have been lying abandoned and remaining of the waterbodies are almost unfit for pisciculture causing acute decline in fish output.

According to an official, nutrition is a vital part for the growth of fish. A section of fishermen are also found catching fish fry with the help of current nets.

FARIDPUR

Sanitation Week
observed

May 9: Girl's Guide Association, Faridpur branch observed Sanitation Week from April 23 to April 28 through holding discussion meetings and baby show in different bustees of the town, reports BSS.

To create awareness among the people residing in the bustees the association chalked out the sanitation programme in collaboration with UNICEF.

As part of the programme a discussion meeting followed by a baby show was held at Kharpara Bustee in the outskirts of this district town on the concluding day. Speakers at the meeting informed the bustee people about primary health care, vaccination and other health measures to be taken for preserving health of the bustee people.

The meeting was addressed among others by Hosneara Huda, president of Girls Guide Association of Faridpur branch, Noorjahan Khandoker, Head mistresses of govt. girls high school and Feroza Begum.

GOPALGANJ

Govt quarters
in poor shape

May 9: The government quarters in the town have become almost unfit for use due to lack of maintenance and necessary renovation work, reports UNB.

Some employees alleged that the B-type quarters adjacent to the residence of the Executive Engineer of the Works Department, A-type quarters near police line, are in dilapidated conditions in the absence of repair works. The roofs of the B-type buildings may collapse at any time, it is observed.

Drainage system and electric wiring in the quarters are in disarray causing untold sufferings to the inmates, they said.

DINAJPUR

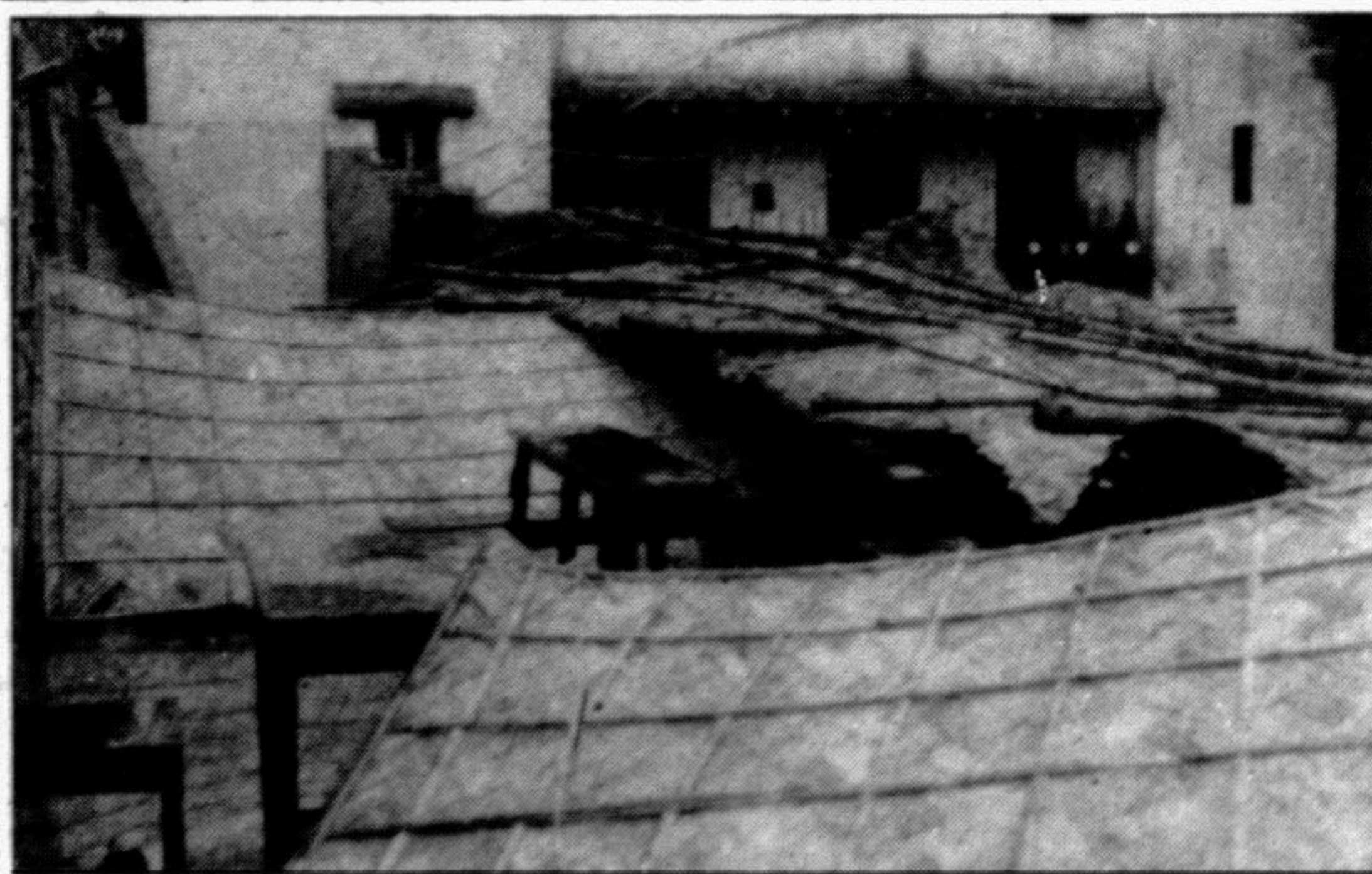
District Bar
Assoc polls held

May 9: Election of Dinajpur District Bar Association was held peacefully on Friday, reports UNB.

A F M Reazul Haque Chowdhury and Mainul Islam were elected president and general secretary respectively of the association.

Other office-bearers are Wazed Ali and Mohammad Abdus Sayeed — vice presidents, Syed Mehrab Ali and Manzur Ahmed — assistant general secretaries and Taherul Islam — library secretary.

The elected members are Taiba Begum, Abdul Mazid, Abu Bakar Siddique and Khairul Ali.



CHANDPUR: Some parts of the Chandpur Dehlavi Girls' High School collapsed by the recent tornado. —Star photo