

Lakhs of people stranded by flood waters in greater Sylhet

From Iqbal Siddiquee

SYLHET, June 9: Excessive rains and onrush of water from across the Indian hilly borders of Meghalaya State have affected several lakhs of people of the greater Sylhet district for the past one week. Jaintipur, Gowainghat, Companiganj and Kanaighat thanas have totally been inundated by the floods while parts of Jakiganj, Beanibazar and Sylhet sadar remain under five feet deep water.

Three other labourers were also inside the boat. The badly affected areas of Gowainghat thana are, Khashia Punji, Jafflong Tea Garden, Nayabasti, Joyrambasti, Cholakhel, Baurbhag, Asampara, Nayagangerpar, Nanda, Titkuli, Budhigaon, Pukap, Nayakhel, Kurihaor, Purnanagar, Kakunakali, Khola, Nayakhel Khash Mouja and Barohal. Most of the roads in the villages have gone under water.

Several thousands of people have become marooned in different unions of the thana. The badly affected villages are Pashchim Jafflong, Alirgaon, Lengura, Toakul, Nandirgaon. The situation worsened following development of a breach on the embankment.

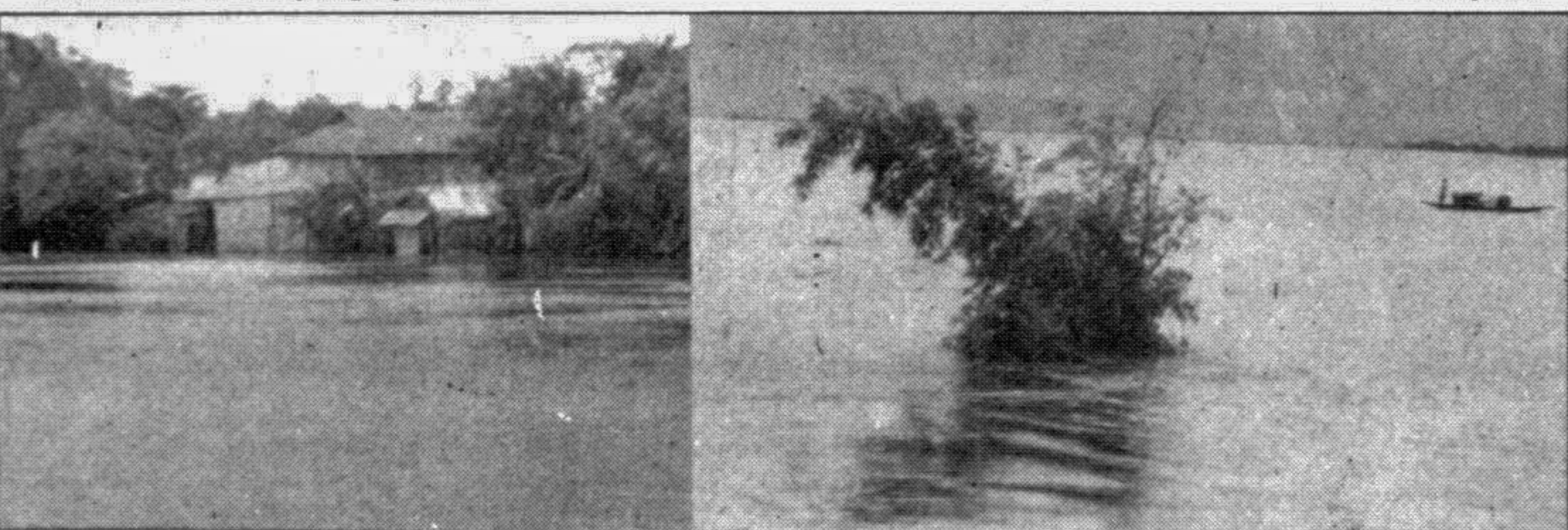
In Companyganj thana, about 80 per cent of the standing crops have been inundated by the flood waters. About ten thousand people of the area were surrounded by the onrush of sudden flow of

breaches on the embankment of Dholoi River Reclamation Project. An acute scarcity of firewood has been prevailing in the thana. Relief materials in the area are yet to arrive.

Standing crops on more than five thousand acres of land went under waters while about two thousand dwelling houses have been badly damaged in Dubag, Alinagar, Sheela, Kurarbar and Muria unions of Beanibazar thana on Sunday. A young man named



SYLHET: A primary school inundated by the flood waters (L). Villagers using sand bags to close a breach on an embankment in Companiganj thana. — Star photo



SYLHET: Some dwelling houses in Alirgaon of Gowainghat thana which were severely damaged by the onrush of flood water and continuous rain. The picture in the right side shows Shilaguri haor of Companiganj thana where hundreds of acres of cropland were submerged by the flood water. — Star photo

flowing above 34 centimetre above danger level in Sunamganj while in Kanaighat it was reported that the water in the same river was flowing above 30 cm above danger level on Monday. The road communication among the three district headquarters remain disconnected since the start of the floods in early last week. The communication network among the remote villages was also snapped for the last six days. The Gowainghat thana headquarters has been totally detached from the rest of the surrounding regions as the Sari-Gowainghat port went under deep water.

has also been prevailing in all the villages as most of the tubewells have either gone under water or lying out of order for long. Prices of essentials have also shot up, it is reported.

Imran Ahmed, a local MP, visited some affected areas in village Hatgram of Lengura union and Shyampur of Fatehpur union and distributed some relief materials including some food items in Jaintapur thana.

Badly-hit areas are in Islampur, Telikkhal and Ronikkhal unions. More than one hundred country boats locally known as 'Barki' used for carrying stones from the quarries have been drifted away by the heavy pressure of flood waters. Collection of stones from the quarry at Dholoi had to be suspended last week. Huge amounts of standing crops on some haors have gone under water on Friday following development

Matiur Rahman was drowned in the Jajalnagar haor of Charkhal union on Sunday morning during a storm which lashed the area.

In Jakiganj thana some villages in Kajalshah, Birsri and Barohal unions were severely hit by the flood waters causing damages to standing crops while several hundred kucha houses were also destroyed.

At least ten villages in Gouripur, Nayamati and Salarchak were badly affected by the flood. Breaches developed at several places in the Surma Dyke which has further worsened the sufferings of thousands of villagers in the area.

Leaders of different local organisations have called upon the government to start relief operations in the affected areas. Most of the farmers have lost their farm land because of arrival of this second flash floods this year caused by the excessive rains and onrush of waters from the hilly areas across the Indian border. The leaders have also called for immediate arrangement for selling of rice at fixed price to keep the market price of foodgrains in the affected thanas under control. (All photos taken by our correspondent, Iqbal Siddiquee)

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

38 Author pack Provo
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8 Regarding 41 Despondent often 23 AWOL's
12 "This DOWN pursuers
Time the 43 Mrs. Eddie 1 "Golly" 24 — au vin
Dream's Cantor 2 Initial stake 25 Extinguishing
— 45 Swearer's 3 Flightless a
stack flock cigarette
13 Legume 47 Youth-and- 4 Southpaw 27 The whole
home old-age, shebang
14 "Pokey" e.g. 5 Board- 29 Mary's
giving game 29 Mary's
meal (Latin) device, boss
essential 52 Gorgeous 6 Sweetie 30 Scale abbr.
17 Just 54 Occupation 7 — Lee 34 Search
adorable 55 Ring 8 Masters 37 partner?
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portrayer 56 Mrs. 9 Wall arrive
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28 Unmoving SWARM SERVICE
31 Kitchen AIDA YON ICON
array CLOCHES KNEES
33 Literary RIFLE PEP FIG
monogram AREA GRAFFITI
35 Nose-in- TMAN PIN AJAR
the-air sort LARD AMS DILL
36 Team Yesterday's answer 10-6

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CRYPTOQUIP

IZXA ZX OZUM FA FLLVX
UHH ZGO OUA'O ZXFR

GM IFO RDPFPMGY, MU
ZXFD IGVVGF MXXV GM.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BASICALLY, I BELIEVE, LAWYERS LOVE TO WAIVE AT EACH OTHER.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: A equals N
The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Tk 10 lakh bank money looted from launch

NARSINGDI, June 9: A group of dacoits looted bank money and arms in a dacoity on a passenger launch in Meghna river today, reports UNB.

The bandits took away Tk 10 lakh, one stengun, and two rifles from the Sonali Bank guards after stabbing them at about 11 am, police said.

Three armed guards and the cashier of Narsingdi main branch of the Sonali Bank boarded the FM Neela at the terminal here at 10 am to supply the money to the bank's Bancharampur branch in Brahmanbaria.

As the launch neared Sreenagar about 25 robbers, who also boarded the launch in disguise of passengers, swooped on the armed guards and the cashier carrying the money in a trunk.

They stabbed guards Abul Hossain, Abdur Rouf and Farook and cashier Abdul Latif, snatched the arms and the trunk and sped away in a mechanised boat which was following the launch, passengers told police.

The bank employees were admitted to the Narsingdi Sadar Hospital with serious injuries.

A case was registered with Narsingdi sadar thana in this connection.

When contacted the AGM and Manager of Narsingdi branch of the Sonali Bank declined to talk about the dacoity.

Police, however, did not rule out the possibility of involvement of someones of the bank in the dacoity.

Proposed railway link not yet implemented

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, June 9: The Darshana-Meherpur-Poradah railway line, proposed 50 years ago, still remains a dream.

According to Bangladesh Railway sources, a project was undertaken during the British rule in India to establish the rail link from Poradah to Karimpur in India through Meherpur. The plan was formulated to improve business communication of the area as well as to remove problems of the passengers travelling to and from the region. Few years later route of the proposed railway was changed and decided to link Chuadanga with Bheramara through Meherpur, Daulatpur, and Raiba. However, somehow the new project of the railway lines was not implemented for reasons unknown to the railway authority.

After the Liberation War, people of the area demanded to the authority to implement the proposed project. In 1977 the railway authority considered to review the plan of the project and accordingly an enquiry was ordered by the then minister Abdul Alim. A report was prepared by a senior railway department official and submitted to the concerned office in 1979. In the enquiry report it was suggested that the proposed route of the railway be changed and establish rail link between Darshana and Poradah touching Meherpur.

The proposal was, however, not taken seriously by the authority, consequently, the project was not implemented. The following year the then late president Ziaur Rahman visited Meherpur and assured the local people at a public meeting to implement the

proposed project. This time too, the project plan remained confined within the office files. It was understood that the work of the project could not be implemented for reasons best known to the concerned authority.

During the rule of Ershad regime, the proposed project was once again considered and accordingly the plan was reviewed by the concerned officials.

In late 1985 the then divisional commissioner of Khulna sent papers consisting of the cost and details of the project work to the ministry of communication in Dhaka and requested to implement the project as early as possible. Unfortunately, no response was shown by the ministry.

Merchants, specially those who trade with merchants of Chuadanga and Meherpur, suffer most due to absence of rail link with the district of Khulna. There is a big commercial gap among the districts, says one businessman. Meherpur, Gangni, Poradah, Amla, Kederganj, Sholmar and Kutubpur are important business centres which rely heavily on distant transportation of goods. The railway link can solve their problems to a great extent, expressed some members of business community of the region. In addition to this, sugar industries could see a boost in production once the rail lines were set up. In fact, more sugar industries could be encouraged to be established with the implementation of the project, expressed one businessman who deals with sugar trade in Jhenidah.

Sharp fall in hilsha output in Madaripur

MADARIPUR, June 9: Production of hilsha fish is rapidly declining due to extensive catching of 'jhataka' fish (hilsha fry) by current nets despite government ban, says UNB.

The hilsha fish moves upstream to the rivers from the deep sea in their spawning period during the months of September and October. In that time they were also unabatedly caught by a group of fishermen.

Local people alleged that 'jhataka' and egg-bearing fish are usually caught by current nets in Shibechar, Chandpur, Munsihiganj of Padma and in the estuaries which are known as hilsha sanctuaries.

Flash flood 800 homeless

SIRAJGANJ, June 9: Some 800 inhabitants of three thanas were rendered homeless due to flash flood and erosion of the river Jamuna during the last 24 hours, official sources said, reports UNB.

Low lying areas of five unions of Kazipur thana, two unions of sadar, one union each of Belkuchi, Chauhall and Shahjadpur thana were inundated and standing crops including paddy submerged.

Water Development Board office of the district said, water level of the river Jamuna rose to 36 centimetres during the period.

According to TNO of Chauhall thana, 600 families of nine villages were rendered homeless due to the river erosion. The villages are — B-Dashuria, Muradpur, Newshakpal, Gowla, Hatail.

The Daily Star

World Cup USA94 Quiz Competition

Powervision CTV 21*
(1st Prize)

Tk.26,950

Philips B/W TV 17*
(2nd Prize)

Tk.7,200

Turbo Stereo Recorder
(3rd Prize)

Tk.5,500

4 Dozens of Philips Bulbs
(4th Prize)

Tk.1,200 X 5 Prizes

All prizes courtesy: **Transcom Electronics Ltd.**
Licensed manufacturer of PHILIPS Lighting products, Radio and TV Sets.

COMPETITION RULES

INTRODUCTION:

A. The Daily Star World Cup Quiz 94, is a series of (6) Quiz Competitions on World Cup Football. Sets of questions will be published for (10) consecutive days in the Sports Page of The Daily Star for the first (5) Quiz Competitions. For the last and final Bumper Quiz Competition, a set of questions will be published for one month in the Sports Page of The Daily Star according to the schedule (Picture of the Round) as fixed by the Daily Star authorities.

B. For the first (5) Quiz Competitions there will be 1st, 2nd, 3rd and (5)th consolation prizes. The prizes will be Colour TV, Black & White TV, Super Turbo 2-in-1 Stereo Recorder and light bulbs respectively.

C. Any taxes or levies, as per rule, for all the above prizes, will have to be borne by the winners.

D. Names and addresses of all prizewinners will be published in The Daily Star. Winners will be responsible for collecting their prizes from The Daily Star office after satisfactory authentication of their identity.

For the Bumper Quiz Competition, there will be the BUMPER PRIZE consisting of a ticket to the World Cup Final match, along with an Economy Class return air ticket (Dhaka-Los Angeles-Dhaka) and an amount for incidental expenses. The Daily Star does NOT take any responsibility for any visa or other travel documents that may be required. The BUMPER PRIZE Winner will have to make his/her own arrangements in this regard. In case of the Bumper Prize winner's inability to travel to the USA he/she may choose to receive a sum of Tk.100,000/- in cash in lieu of the air fare and living expenses.

RULES

1. Residents of Bangladesh, subject to these rules, will be eligible to participate in The Daily Star World Cup Quiz 94. All personnel and family members of The Daily Star, Transcom Electronics Ltd and Unstrend advertising agency and all its affiliate companies shall be deemed disqualified to participate in The Daily Star World Cup Quiz 94.

2. Participants are to cut the original form along the indicated dotted lines. All entries must be submitted on the original form printed in The Daily Star. Photocopies or reproductions in any form will not be accepted.

3. Participants are to put a tick (✓) mark in the box which they think is the correct answer to the question. A person may send as many entries in his/her own name and address.

4. Each entry form should be clearly filled-in complete with a ball-point pen. Participant's name, address, father's name must be clearly written. Each entry form must bear the correct date and signature of the participant.

5. Participants must ensure the following: All entries must reach the office of The Daily Star on or before the closing date marked on the entry form. Envelopes of entries must be clearly marked "STAR QUIZ". Entries may be hand delivered or sent by post to: The Daily Star House No.11, Road No.3, Dhanmandi Residential Area, Dhaka-1205.

6. Entries will be opened by The Daily Star authorities. Entries with all correct answers will be placed in a sealed box for the lucky draw, to be held on the notified/appointed date in public in the presence of invited guests and quiz participants, if any.

7. The Daily Star authorities, in their absolute discretion, reserve the right to amend, modify or substitute any of the above rules and/or change or re-schedule any and all dates of The Daily Star World Cup Quiz 94 in any circumstances.

8. All participants agree to abide by all rules, instructions and guide-lines as may be issued, from time to time, by The Daily Star authorities. Participants' entry in the quiz competition shall be construed as their respective agreement to all such rules, instructions and guidelines.

9. Any decision of The Daily Star authorities in the conduct of the Quiz Competition (including the answers selected as correct) shall be deemed final and binding on all participants and shall not be called in question and/or challenged in any manner whatsoever.

Quiz 6. Entries close on 24-06-94

Read the instructions carefully. Then tick (✓) the answer which you think is correct.

1. Who is the oldest player to have scored in the WC finals?	Pele <input type="checkbox"/>	Vava <input type="checkbox"/>	R. Milla <input type="checkbox"/>
2. Which African team first won a game in the WC finals?	Egypt <input type="checkbox"/>	Morocco <input type="checkbox"/>	Tunisia <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Who was the last winning captain to lift the World Cup in his own club stadium?	Meazza <input type="checkbox"/>	Moore <input type="checkbox"/>	Passarella <input type="checkbox"/>
4. How many players did Brazil use to win the 1962 World Cup?	12 <input type="checkbox"/>	14 <input type="checkbox"/>	16 <input type="checkbox"/>
5. Who was the top scorer in the 1966 World Cup?	Eusebio <input type="checkbox"/>	Charlton <input type="checkbox"/>	Hurst <input type="checkbox"/>
6. In 1990 which Czech player scored one penalty and missed another in his team's game against the USA?	Bilek <input type="checkbox"/>	Skuhravy <input type="checkbox"/>	Luhovy <input type="checkbox"/>
7. Which ex-Brazilian star managed Peru in 1970?	Mauro <input type="checkbox"/>	Didi <input type="checkbox"/>	Zozimo <input type="checkbox"/>
8. In the 1990 World Cup, which of these teams reached the quarter-final stage without winning a match?	Argentina <input type="checkbox"/>	Ireland <input type="checkbox"/>	Yugoslavia <input type="checkbox"/>
9. Which one of these players has scored in 4 successive W Cups?	G. Muller <input type="checkbox"/>	Pele <input type="checkbox"/>	Cubillas <input type="checkbox"/>
10. How many goals did Polish striker Lato score in the 1974 WC?	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>

NAME: _____ AGE: _____
ADDRESS: _____
FATHER'S NAME: _____ TELEPHONE: _____
OCCUPATION: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

Write with a ball-point pen in clear, CAPITAL LETTERS. Cut along the dotted lines and mail it to us FAST!