

Flood in Chandpur improves

Two biggest irrigation projects face threat of Meghna erosion

From Shirin Akhter



CHANDPUR: Nazirpara area of the town is completely inundated. — Star photo



CHANDPUR: Pourashava authority distributing cooked food among flood victims at Railway Akkas Ali High School. — Star photo



CHANDPUR: Flood waters marooned the Chandpur-Comilla road of the town. — Star photo

CHANDPUR, July 19: The flood situation in Chandpur district is improving gradually. The Meghna river at Chandpur is still flowing 50 centimetres above of danger level. Seven more unions in the district were submerged raising the total number of affected unions to 57 in the district. So far five people were killed by flood, according to unofficial sources.

According to Chandpur district flood control office sources so far 577 acres of land were inundated. As a result about five lakh people were affected by flood. About five thousand houses, one hundred km-long roads, ten bridges and culverts were damaged in the district. The badly affected areas of the district are Chandpur sadar, Matlab, Kachua, Haimchar, Faridganj, Haziganj thanas and entire Chandpur municipal area. Two relief camps were opened at Railway Akkas Ali High School and Railway Club. About five thousand people took shelter in these two relief camps. Besides, about 10 thousand marooned people took shelter at Haimchar irrigation embankment and CARE embankment.

Taka 130 crore Meghna-Dhanagoda Irrigation Project and Tk 80 crore Chandpur Irrigation Project, two biggest irrigation projects of the country are under threat of erosion. About one hundred labourers and water development officials are working day and night to repair the breaches on the embankment of Meghna-Dhanagoda Project.

According to Chandpur civil surgeon office sources about ninety-nine medical teams are working in the affected areas.

Diarrhoea and dysentery already broke out in the affected areas. Serious scarcity of drinking water is reported from the affected areas. The road communication between Chandpur-Dhaka and Chandpur-Faridganj were restored Tuesday. Meanwhile, different social, political and cultural organisations are distributing relief goods in different affected areas.

So far government has allotted Tk one lakh fifty thousand in cash, 150 metric tons of rice, 200 metric tons of wheat, 200 pieces of sarees, 200 pieces of lungis. Relief operation was geared up in the affected areas.

Students barricade highway in Gaibandha

From Our Correspondent
GAIBANDHA, July 19: Several hundred students staged a demonstration at Palashbari on Wednesday barricading the Rangpur-Gaibandha highway demanding restoration of objective type questions bank in the forthcoming SSC examination in 1996. Agitated students damaged window panes of six buses. Protesting the student action bus drivers stopped plying vehicles for four hours detaining hundreds of vehicles on the roads. The movement of buses however will resume at 3 pm.

3 invigilators insulted while trying to detain HSC examinees

From Our Correspondent
JHENIDAH, July 19: Three invigilators were insulted by some examinees while protesting copying during second paper of English HSC examination at Mahtabuddin Degree College examination centre in Jhenidah district recently, it was alleged.

According to reports, Khondakar Hafiz Farooque, Golam Mustafa and Sana Nityananda, three invigilators were on duty. While they tried to detain some of the examinees for copying they allegedly humiliated the teachers. The matter was informed to the Deputy Commissioner of Jhenidah immediately and he assured to take necessary steps against the examinees involved in humiliating the invigilators.

Further, a group of young boys tried to attack one of the lecturers, Khondakar Hafiz Farooque at his residence at Kalabagan in the town in the evening the same day of the incident, sources say.

It is further alleged that 'free style' copying was started just after starting of the examination of Mahtabuddin Degree College HSC centre.

Cattle disease claims 50 in Kushtia

From Our Correspondent
KUSHTIA, July 19: Cattle diseases that broke out in an epidemic form have so far claimed 50 animals in six thanas of the district, farmers said.

The worst affected unions are Jagoti, Talbaria, Mirpur where at least 1000 cattle are suffering from the disease.

The disease, known as *khura*, causes infection in jawa and hooves while another disease popularly known as *golfula* crippled the animals.

Farmers alleged that due to wrong treatment by unqualified veterinary doctors, compounders and field assistants of Kushtia Livestock Department many cattle died in these unions.

The farmers also alleged that local livestock department did not take measures to inoculate the cattle since the outbreak of the diseases.

District Livestock Officer told this correspondent that cattle vaccinated earlier have also been attacked with the diseases.

The MED vaccines manufactured by Livestock Research Institute in Mohakhali and imported from France have failed to prevent the cattle disease.

He said that the germs of the disease are being carried by the Indian cattlehead smuggled into Bangladesh. He opines that by conducting research on the MED vaccines, Bangladesh has failed to find out the clue to the disease.

Tuntuni murder Four accused arrested

COXS BAZAR, July 19: Police arrested four accused of the Tuntuni murder-case from Vijoy Sardar area in Gorokghata union of Maheshkhali thana on Monday, reports UNB.

Later on, the arrested people were sent to the jail. However, the details of their identities were not immediately available.

Tunku Bala alias Tuntuni, 15, allegedly committed suicide at her residence at village Vijoy Sardar of Gorokghata in Maheshkhali on last Friday. The OC Maheshkhali filed a case in connection with the incident.

One Bashiram Dey of the same village, confined Tuntuni in his house to marry her, said SP Cox's Bazar M A Hannan adding that Tuntuni committed suicide by taking poison, immediately after her rescue.

Costly jackfruits find few customers

From Rajat K Goswami

MOULVI BAZAR, July 19: Jack-fruit, a favourite fruit was grown in plenty but is very costly this year, at least in Moulvibazar.

The prices of different varieties of jack fruits available in the local markets are much higher in comparison with those available last year.

Production of jack fruit in Moulvibazar district was hampered due to a prolonged drought early this year. Most of the buds of the fruit dried up as an unusual delay in the rain fall followed by rise in the temperature which is still persisting in the district.

Normally harvesting of jack fruit begins from last week of April and continues till July. However, April to July is considered as proper harvesting season. But due to absence of rainfall in early part of this year, jack fruit buds dried up in almost all the areas of Moulvibazar district.

This is the high time of jack fruit. The whole sale markets at Brahmanbazar under Kulaura thana and Srimongal town have already become crowded by buyers from different places of the surrounding districts but supply of the fruit in the markets is comparatively poor, so prices too have increased. Different qualities of jack-fruit are now selling between Taka 2,200 to Taka 6,500 per 100 according to grade in one of the main whole sale markets at Brahmanbazar under Kulaura thana.

There are no accurate figures of cultivable land and production of jack fruit in Moulvibazar district, which is one of the main jackfruit producing areas of the country. According to a Subject Matter Specialist (SMS), working at the office of district Agriculture Extension Department, jack fruit plants are scatteredly cultivated by the local people especially at the hilly areas of the district. Jack fruit plants grow abundantly without any attention and care. So the exact statistics on jack fruit production is not available.

Answering to a question, the SMS added that, the Agriculture Extension Department has no scheme

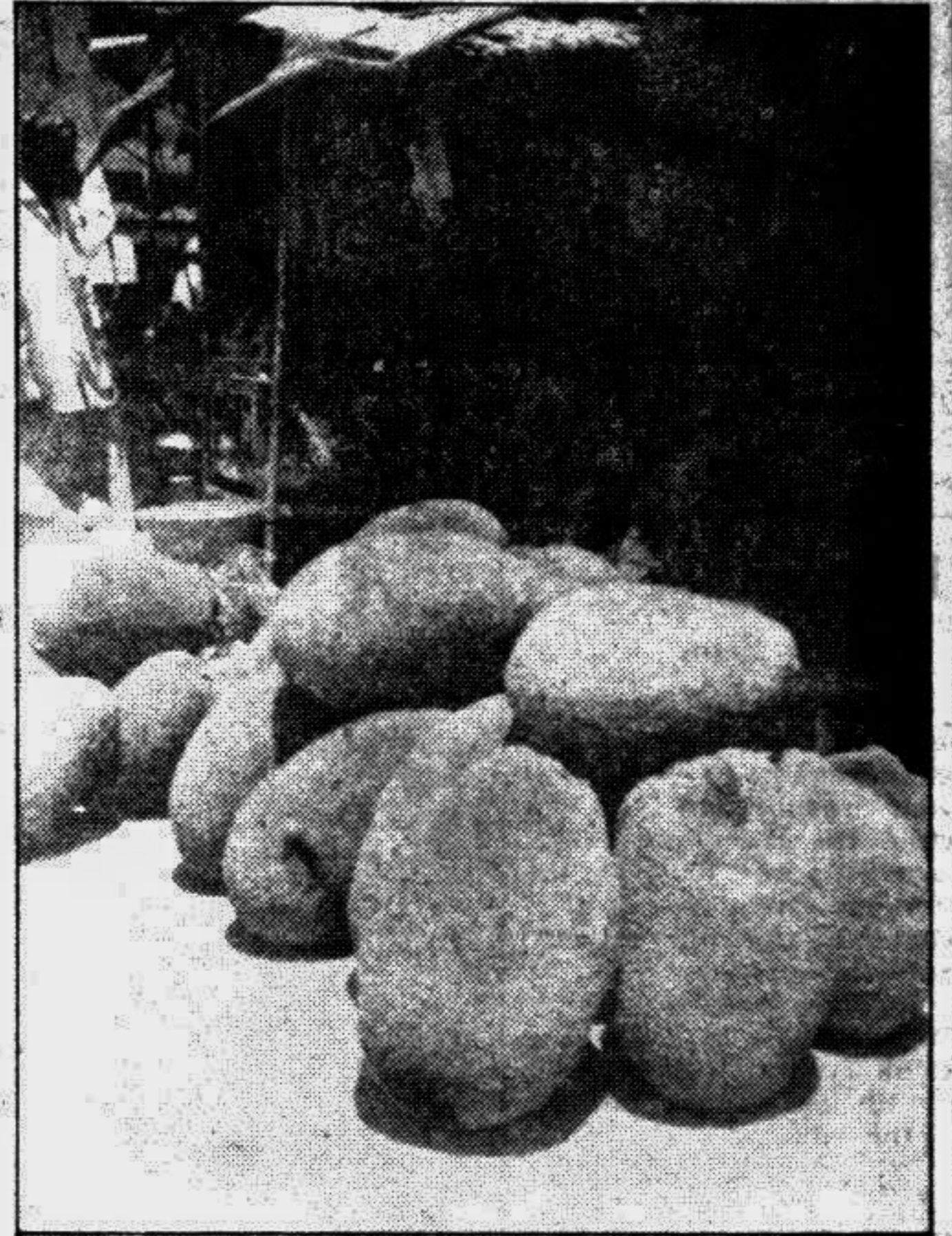
to patronise the jack fruit cultivation, though such scheme will be helpful not only for the interested growers but also for economy of the district.

He, however gave an approximate data of jack fruit cultivation in the district. According to him, in Moulvibazar district alone, over five crore jack fruits are produced on 4,500 acres of

people who own jack fruit plants are compelled to sell their plants to a section of traders. The jack fruit plants are being used as fire-wood, for making furniture and for house building materials.

Due to indiscriminate felling of jack fruit plants an acute crisis of jack fruit have been prevailing everywhere.

It is learnt that if the present trend of felling of jack



MOULVIBAZAR: A fruit vendor displays his jack-fruits at a wayside market of the town. — Star photo

land under six thans of the district. Most of the jack fruits are being produced in the hilly areas of Kulaura, Baralekha, Srimongal, Kamalgonj and sadar thanas.

Jack fruit plants in all the six thanas of the district are on verge of extinction due to large scale cutting as well. Besides this, jack fruit plants in plain land have been damaged every year by inundation of flood water as stagnant water is harmful for jack fruit trees.

Many poverty stricken

fruit plants continues, no fruit will be available in the district in the near future.

On the other hand, jack fruit cultivation is not profitable now-a-days due to lack of proper marketing system as well as absence of facilities like cold-storage, transportation etc.

Every season huge quantities of jack fruits remain unsold and damaged. Besides, huge quantities of hilly land including khas, which are suitable for jack fruit plantation remained follow.

Relief in Pabna inadequate

From Ranesh Maitra

PABNA, July 19: Although flood situation throughout the district remained unchanged for last few days there is no improvement in the situation. Relief activities remained very scanty.

According to the District Flood Control Room, out of 50 unions of the six affected thanas of Pabna namely, Bera, Santhia, Faridpur, Sujanagar, Chatmohar and Bhangora, 30 unions and one pourashava (Bera pourashava) have been affected by the flood. A total of 471 square kilometres of land in these six affected thanas became inundated. The total number of persons affected till July 16 stands at 2,50,640. The total number of houses destroyed are 16,000 totally and 3,427 partially.

According to the official sources, standing crops of over 13,979 acres of land have been completely and a further area of 14,067 acres of land bearing standing crops have been partially destroyed.

Losses suffered in the road communication sector, it has been estimated that 87 kilometres of *katcha* roads have so far been completely damaged while 548 kilometres have been damaged partially. Moreover, 578 feet *pucca* roads have been completely damaged and 23 kilometres have also been damaged partially.

Besides, according to the latest information gathered from the official sources here, as many as 17 educational institutions have been completely damaged in Bhangora thana, while 84 in Bera thana, five in Santhia thana, three in Faridpur thana, eight in Sujanagar thana and 24 others in Bhangora thana have been partially damaged. The total number of educational institutions so far damaged — either completely or partially — stands at 141, according to the official sources in Pabna. Two culverts within Faridpur thana and seven kilometres of embankment in Bera thana have also been partially destroyed.

Moreover, 110 cattle-heads and 1557 poultry birds have also died due to inundation in Faridpur and Bera thanas respectively.

A total of Taka 1,35,000 has so far been distributed throughout Pabna, in cash to 2,50,640 affected persons. The allotment, stands at nearly Tk .60 only per affected person.

Among other relief-items so far distributed by the government are 151 mts of wheat, 95 mts of rice and 200 tins of biscuits. Less than one tin biscuit for 2,500 persons has been allotted.

When contacted, Relief and Rehabilitation Officer of the district admitted that the relief so far distributed was poor and hence, to meet the situation, urgent message has been sent to Dhaka for sanctioning more relief money and materials.

According to the said emergency message, the district administration of Pabna approached for sanctioning Tk 7,00,000 as GR money, 500 metric tons of GR wheat, Tk 10,00,000 as house-building grant and 500 metric tons of wheat for test relief operators.

The authorities, however, stated that the above was the preliminary need of the hour and more relief would certainly be necessary for the poor, helpless victims.

The government has not yet sanctioned any grant for house-building purposes nor for conducting test reliefs — both of which is highly necessary at this moment.

The NGOs and the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society are yet start their operations.

Meanwhile, Jamuna river at the Nagarbarighat point was still flooding above danger-level till Tuesday and water-level in the Padma was steadily rising everyday inundating fresh areas.

Case against killing of BCL leader

MYMENSINGH, July 19: A case was filed today with Kotwali thana in connection with the killing of Anwar Hossain Milton, a Chhatra League leader, in a party infighting, reports UNB.

Milton and another BCL leader, Sarwar Alam Noman, were killed on July 14 during a gunfight between two factions.

Uncle of Milton, Nurul Islam, filed the case against the rival group, police said. But still none filed any case against the killing of Noman.

Meanwhile, 20 district unit leaders, resigned from Awami League on Monday in protest of the killings.



SYLHET: Badaruddin Kamran, chairman, Sylhet Pourashava speaking as chief guest at the conference of the Kuwait Returnees Association held here recently. — Star photo



PABNA: Flood affected people in the worst hit Bera thana of the district surrounded the vehicle carrying the Deputy Commissioner and some journalists while they were visiting the areas. Most of the people believed that the vehicle was carrying relief for them. — Star photo

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়
গণপূর্ত বিভাগ, মাদারীপুর

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি
নং ৮/৯৫-৯৬
(দ্বিতীয় আহ্বান)

নিম্নবর্ণিত কাজের জন্য গণপূর্ত অধিদপ্তরের অনুমোদিত বিশেষ ১ম (প্রথম) শ্রেণীর ও ১ম (প্রথম) শ্রেণীর ইমারত ত্রিকাদার/কার্ম, গণপূর্ত অধিদপ্তর, কুলনা জোন, কুলনার অনুমোদিত ২য় শ্রেণীর ইমারত ত্রিকাদার/কার্ম এবং গণপূর্ত সার্কেল, বরিশালের অনুমোদিত ৩য় শ্রেণীর ইমারত ত্রিকাদার/কার্ম-এর নিকট হইতে এতদ্বারা ২৯১১ নং ফরমে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাইতেছে। আগামী ২৭-০৭-৯৫ইং তারিখ বিপ্রহর ১২-০০ ঘটিকা নাগাদ নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারী এবং বরিশাল গণপূর্ত সার্কেলের আওতাধীন সকল বিভাগে তাহাদের স্ব-স্ব কার্যালয়ে যথারীতি দরপত্র গৃহীত হইবে এবং একই দিনে ১২-১৫ মিঃ আগামী ত্রিকাদারদের যোদ্ধারা উপস্থিত থাকেন। সমুদয় দরপত্র খোলা হইবে।

| ক্রমিক নং | কাজের নাম | গুণ নং | প্রাক্কলিত ব্যয় | বায়নার টাকা | অনুমোদিত সময়সীমা |
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| ১। | ৪৪টি নতুন জেলা সদর নির্মাণ কাজের একটি মাদারীপুর। উপখণ্ডঃ জেলা জজের কোর্ট ভবনের (এক) এগ্রেড রোড নির্মাণ কাজ। | ১ | টাকা ৯,৯৫,৫৭৬/- | ১৯,৯১২/- | ৩০ (ষাট) দিন |
| ২। | ৪৪টি নতুন জেলা সদর নির্মাণ কাজের একটি মাদারীপুর। উপখণ্ডঃ জেলা প্রশাসকের কোর্ট (দুই) ভবনের এগ্রেড রোড নির্মাণ। | ২ | টাকা ৮,২১,৭৫৬/- | ১৬,৪৩৫/- | ৩০ (ষাট) দিন |

নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর অফিস এবং গণপূর্ত সার্কেল বরিশালের আওতাধীন সকল বিভাগীয় কার্যালয় হইতে ২৬-৭-৯৫ইং তারিখ পর্যন্ত সকল কার্যনির্বাহীকে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে দরপত্র বাংলাদেশ ফরম নং ২৯১১ আইটেমসমূহের তফসিল ও অতিরিক্ত শর্তাবলী দেখা যাইবে এবং প্রকল্পিত মূল্য প্রদানপত্রিক সংগ্রহ করা যাইবে।

এ এস এম জামান
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী
গণপূর্ত বিভাগ, মাদারীপুর।

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