

### One awarded life-term for murder

**From Our Correspondent**  
**RAJSHAHI, Sept 27:** The District and Sessions Judge court of Chapai Nawabganj sentenced one Jargis, 28, to life-term imprisonment and fined Taka 5,000 for murdering a young girl Tajura, 18.

The Judge Muhammad Abu Bakr Siddique announced the judgement on Sept 19 in presence of a huge crowd.

According to the statement of the case, Jargis of Kazipara village under Islampur union in the sadar thana of Chapai Nawabganj developed an illegal relation with Tajkera of the same village. They were caught red handed two times while doing unsocial activities. The village judges earlier awarded Jargis punishment for beating.

At this, Jargis became angry and fled with Tajkera abducting her on August 21 of 1993. The body of Tajkera was found on September 30 1993 at Peer Biswas Ghati under sadar thana beside a bush on the bank of a small river. Many marks of injuries were found on her body. Ashraf, brother of Tajkera, registered an abduction and murder case with the Nawabganj thana police accusing Jargis for the incident.

The court, after hearing both sides and the witnesses, found Jargis guilty and offered him the above-said punishment.

### Card phone out of order

**From Our Correspondent**  
**JHENIDAH, Sept 27:** One card phone in out of order while the other is kept under lock and key in Jhenidah, it was learnt.

According to report, the card phone in the town office is out of order for the last few days.

Users allege if card is inserted in the phone no response is obtained from the other side, while the units are consumed rapidly causing much inconvenience, some callers and journalists alleged.

On the other hand, the card phone of Jhenidah head post office is kept under lock and key even after office hours depriving facilities of the callers.

When contacted the Sub-Divisional Engineer, Telecom, Jhenidah told this correspondent that the authorities are yet to decide whether to transfer the card phone near Chudanga bus stand to give better facilities to their valued callers.

### Rival groups clash: Old man killed

**NETRAKONA, Sept 27:** An old man of village Char Uttarbond in Nandail thana was killed by the rival group, police said Tuesday, reports UNB.

According to police, a group of villagers led by a UP member gheraoed Abdul Majid, 65, on September 13 while he was returning home from the local mosque after Fazr prayers and stabbed him to death.

Previous enmity was said to be reason behind the murder. A case was filed with the police accusing 10 people including the UP member. Police arrested four people in this connection.

Another message adds: An absconding convict Matlabuddin was arrested by police on September 14.

Acting on a tip, a contingent of police of Purbadhala thana rushed to the village Sreepur and arrested him with a stolen cow.

Police produced him before the court of Magistrate who sent to jail hajat.

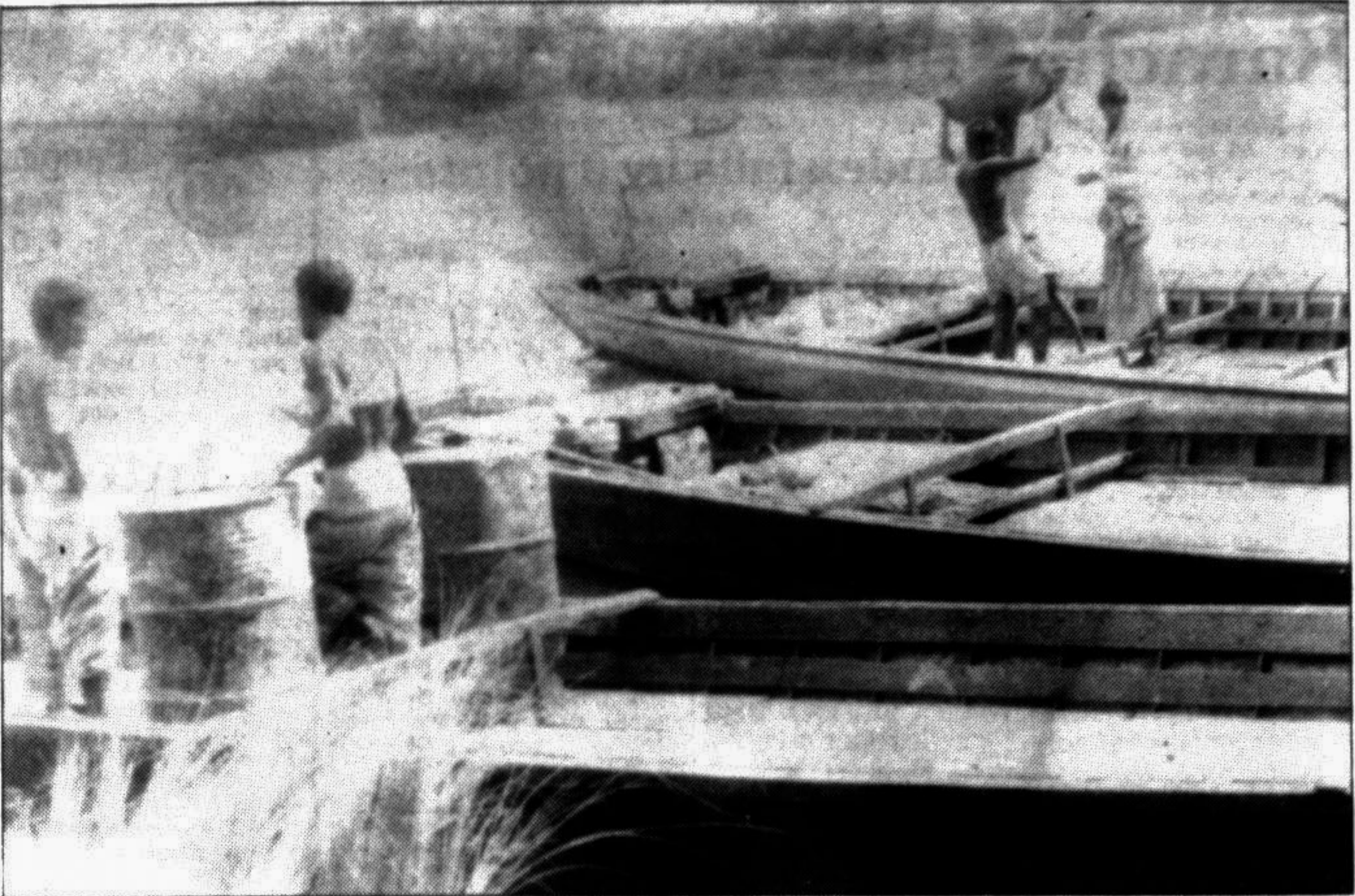
### New road unfit for traffic in Comilla

**COMILLA, Sept 27:** Some new roads, constructed under the JICA project at Homna thana, have become unfit for the movement of heavy transports due to lack of proper maintenance and care, reports UNB.

The roads, linking Homna thana with Muradnagar, Ghamora, Krishnapur, have become dangerous for motor vehicles as cracks and potholes have developed at many points.

The situation turns worse during the rainy season, local people said adding that flood water lashing the two sides of the roads cause further erosion.

Moreover, some potholes turned into ditches due to stagnant flood water endangering the plying of vehicles and movement of pedestrians.



SIRAJGANJ: Country boats, fitted with shallow engines or low lift pump machines, are being used for goods transportation purposes in Jamuna river in the district. These low lift pump machines are normally used for irrigation purposes. — Star photo

## Abnormal low output of fish in N-dists Experts recommend invention of fast growing species of fish

**NATORE, Sept 27:** Experts in a workshop observed that fish production up to the desired level is not possible in the northern region including Natore due to adverse effect of unilateral withdrawal of the Ganges water at Farakka by India, reports UNB.

They also identified indiscriminate use of pesticides and chemical fertilisers in the cropfields as another major reason behind low fish production.

The experts were expressing their views in a workshop on "Development of Fish in North Bengal," organised by Directorate of Fisheries here last week.

Explaining the causes behind the setback in pisciculture in the region, they said that unilateral withdrawal of Ganges water from the upstream at Farakka causes drying up of the Padma and its tributaries, renowned beels including the Chalan Beel.

The water reservoirs remain devoid of water for seven to eight months severely hindering pisciculture of the region, this was observed in the workshop.

About four lakh metric tons of pesticides and chemical fertilisers are being used in the cropfields every year to combat pest attack and increase production. Out of which 25 per cent pesticides are automatically mixed with waters in the open reservoirs like ponds, canals and beels in the rainy season, have long lasting adverse effect up to five years. Most fingerlings cannot survive in such an adverse environment and ultimately die.

"More than 200 species of fish have either become extinct or on way of extinction in the last 15 years in these areas," they also observed.

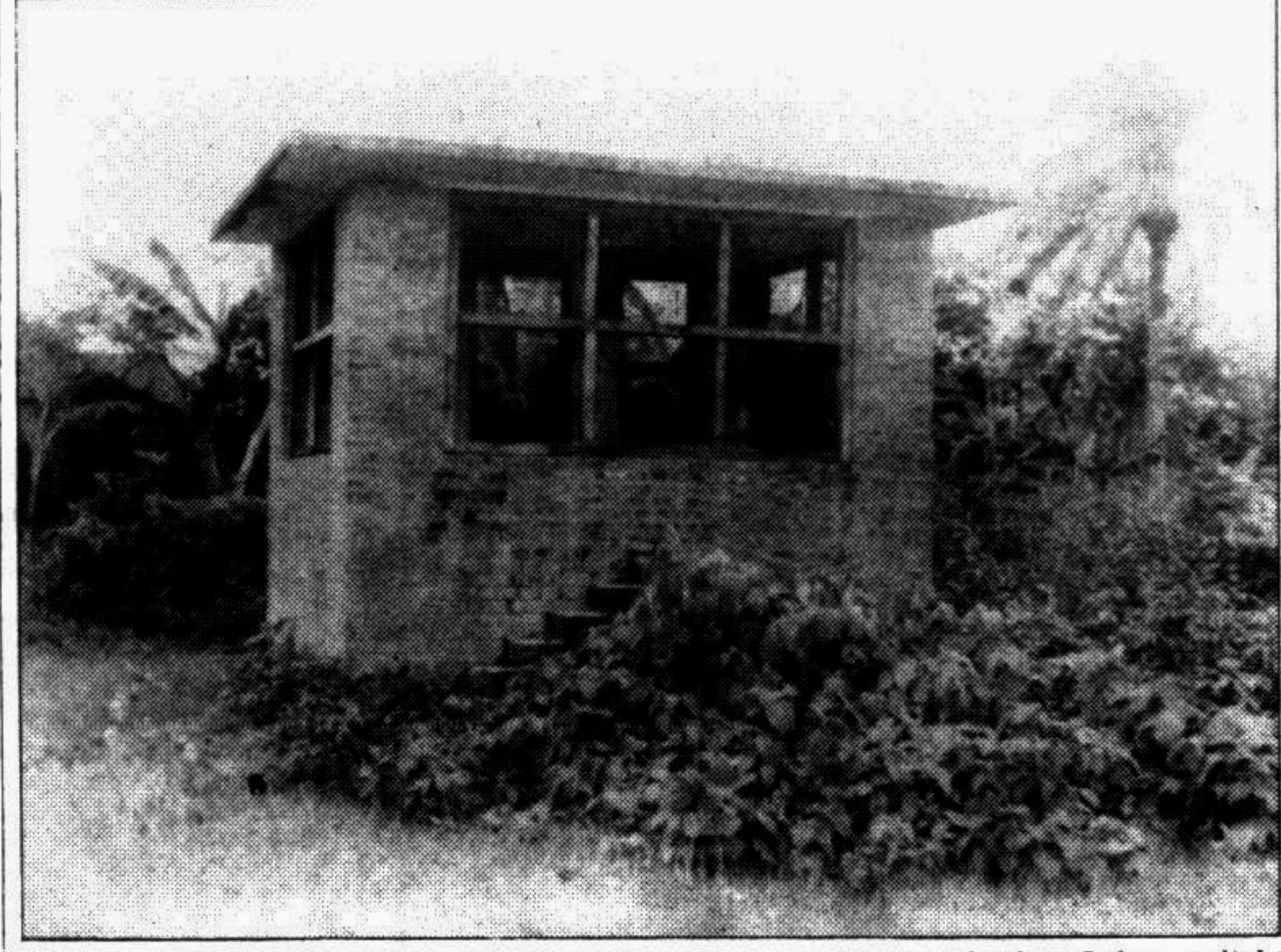
About 90 per cent of the total fish production used to be harvested from the inter-nal open water reservoirs like canals, beels, haors and flood plains in the 60s now has come down to 49 per cent in fiscal 1992-93.

In that fiscal, a total of 1,23,122 metric tons of fish were harvested from the northern region. Moreover, production of ruhi has turned almost nil from the beels and flood plains in the recent years.

In the northern region, there are 1,31,518 hectares of river and canals, 33,694 hectare areas of beels, 6,09,982 hectare areas of flood plains and 76,599 hectares of ponds and closed water reservoirs.

The experts also offered a series of recommendations in the workshop to improve fish production in the northern region and the country as a whole.

The recommendations include invention of fast growing species of fish, measures to lessen restoration of water through the bottom of the water reservoirs, introduction of modern technology to pisciculture, control over use of pesticides and chemical fertilisers specially in the flood plains and open water lands and loan facilities for the fish cultivators and above all realisation of just share of Ganges water.



JHENIDAH: The morgue of Jhenidah sadar hospital surrounding bushes. It has no light or water supply system. — Star photo by Delwar Kabir

## Urea fertilizer crisis affects amon cultivation in Jamalpur

**From Our Correspondent**  
**JAMALPUR, Sept 27:** Acute shortage of urea fertilizer has been persisting in the district hampering the amon crops cultivation during the current season.

The district Agriculture Extension Department (AED) sources said about 6.5 lakh acres of land in the district have been targeted to bring under amon cultivation scheme during the season. Some 50,000 metric tons of urea fertilizer is required for the successful implementation of the programme sources added.

But the supply of fertilizers in the local market is apparently low in comparison with the demand, according to unofficial sources.

Taking advantage of the situation, a section of traders have reportedly started storing fertilizer in their godowns well ahead of the plating season for earning windfall profit. As a result, the price of the fertilizer bags have shot up abnormally causing untold sufferings to the farmers.

All classes of farmers, particularly the marginal ones, have become desperate to procure fertilizer.

Some poor farmers have been forced to plant paddy saplings without or applying smaller quantity of fertilizer.

In rural markets, urea is being sold at about Taka 250 against government fixed price of Taka 186.50 a bag containing 50 Kg of urea fertilizer.

Now there seems to be no mechanism of the government to control the fertilizer market following handing over of the distribution system to the private sector.

**Sarbahara Party leader held in Sirajganj**  
**SIRAJGANJ, Sept 27:** Police arrested a leader of outlawed Purbabangla Sarbahara Party from village Poati in Tarash thana of district on Monday night, reports UNB.

Sirajganj CID police raided the village at around 9 pm and arrested Abu Syed from his residence. Police also recovered a revolver, two rounds of ammunition and 51 booklets of the party from his possession.

The district and thana administration has virtually nothing to do with the price hike of fertilizer, knowledgeable sources said.

Reliable sources said, fertilizer bags are also stockpiled in different private godowns in Jamalpur, creating artificial crisis in the markets.

When contacted the Managing Director of Jamuna Fertilizer Factory informed this correspondent over telephone that at present the factory in capable of producing 1,700 metric tons of urea fertilizer.

It was learnt that some dishonest fertilizer traders have been creating artificial crisis, by stocking and then selling at much higher rates. The situation occurs especially at the beginning of the crop cultivation season.

When contacted some fertilizer traders told this correspondent that they are buying fertilizer at higher rates at mills gate.

Another source said, urea fertilizer is exported to Nepal from Jamuna Fertilizer Factory.

### Body recovered in Rajshahi city

**From Our Correspondent**  
**RAJSHAHI, Sept 27:** Shah Makhdom thana police recovered a dead body from a ditch at Dewanpara in the city on last Saturday morning.

The dead was identified as one Najir, age about 32, of Dewanpara village.

According to police, the relatives of Najir claimed that he had died when he fell into the deep ditch at about 1 am Friday night. But police suspected that the case might be a murder.

The body was sent to the Rajshahi Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Islam Ali, brother of Najir filed a case of unnatural death with the Boalia thana.

### 6 dacoities in one night, 6 injured

**From Our Correspondent**  
**FARIDPUR, Sept 27:** Six dacoities were committed in six houses on the same night at the village of Bagat under Bagat union of Madhukhali thana recently.

A gang of armed dacoits numbering 15 to 20 committed dacoities in six houses one after another including the house of Nimal Ghose, a prominent sweetmeat seller of Ghose Para of the village.

The dacoits injured six inmates namely Pijuse, Biddut, Prakash, Nagendra, Anak, and Shilpi Shaha and decamped with cash and valuables worth Taka 3 and a half lakh.

A case was registered with Madhu Khali thana in this connection.

### One commits suicide

**From Our Correspondent**  
**SATKHIRA, Sept 27:** One Alauddin, 26, of village Baksha under Kolaroa thana committed suicide by taking poison as his wife leaving him, married another man on September 14 last.

According to report, Alauddin son of Abdur Rashid of the said village married one Begum, 20, four years ago and due to poverty about 2 months ago his wife leaving him, married another man of the same village. When he could no longer take the pain any more he took poison. He died on the spot.

# A man dedicated to his profession

**From Our Correspondent**  
**GAIBANDHA, Sept 27:** A homeo doctor Nurul Huq Sarker has gained wide reputation in his profession as thousands of his patients recover. He has been rendering services for the last 35 years.

Nurul Huq is popularly known as *panch pyer daktar* (doctor of five paise). He is well-known by the said name throughout the district. Even patients having complex problems visit him from distant areas hoping recovery of the diseases.

The history behind the name as *panch pyer* doctor is that when he started homeo practice he took paise five only for a single dose of medicine. Long ago, when he started practicing, minimum rate of homeo dose charged by others was five paise.

Homeo physician Nurul Huq Sarker of village the time. Most of this patients are female. Sometimes he can not cope with the increasing number of patients.

His old age bothers him frequently. Every day he listens to various complaints of about two to three hundred patients and treats them by applying each a single dose of medicine. According to his accounts, every day about two *distas* of white paper (25 sheets) is used up for dispensation of his doses. Many of the patients get cured with only a single dose.

Born in 1936, Nurul Huq Sarker matriculated in 1950 and took a diploma from Dhaka Homeo College. From student life he showed interest in homeo practice and occasionally helped inmates of house, neighbours and poor persons with medicine condition and the patient was regretted by the physicians who treated her unsuccessfully for five days. Meanwhile, the patient became critically ill and was not in a position to be transferred to Rangpur or other places. Finding no other alternative, the relatives of the patient met Nurul Huq as a last resort. "I just gave her only a single dose of homeo medicine which miraculously helped her recover. I myself became astonished as the patient was feeling much better within the period of only six hours. She however fully recovered in the next week," said a delighted Sarker. "From then on people started believing in my practice."

During his leisure period and staying at home, Nurul Huq still studies different books, periodicals and jour-



GAIBANDHA: Nurul Huq Sarker seen with his patients at his chamber room in the town. — Star photo

**Purbokamarnai** under Gaibandha sadar thana set up his chamber in a lease-hold tin-shed house at Gaibandha Puratan Bazar. At present he charges 50 paise for a single dose of medicine against the present market rate of Tk 20 only. Some of the homeo doctors charge between Tk 35 and 70 per patient.

Nurul Islam is surrounded by the crowd of patients all almost free of cost.

In an interview Nurul Huq Sarker said that he got much inspiration in homeo practice from the then eminent homeo doctors of the area, Sharat Chandra Bhattacharjee and Aruna Kanti.

In 1969 a girl student aged about 13 fell seriously ill with urinary obstruction. She was admitted to Sadullapur health complex in critical

nals on homeo treatment. For him to diagnose, it takes 15 to 20 minutes to listen to various symptoms of diseases. Referring to the problem in homeo practice he said, scarcity of pure medicine and its specific standard is the main problem for the proper treatment. The recovery from diseases depends on exact selection of medicine and its standard quality, said Sarker.

## Darsana, an important commercial centre faces various problems

**From Our Correspondent**  
**CHUADANGA, Sept 27:** Darsana, one of the busiest commercial and industrial centres of the district is facing various problems.

According to local people, deplorable condition of roads, inadequate street light, lack of proper sanitary arrangements, shortage of space in the markets and inadequate water supply have been hampering the smooth functioning of the life of the local people.

Residents said the commercial and industrial town is expanding with the increase of population but the authority fails to provide necessary civic amenities to them. Darsana is a pourashava.

It may be mentioned here that there is a sugar mill at Darsana named, Carew and Co, now it is a nationalised industry.

The Indian border is one to mile from here. There is also a checkpoint and customs colony at Darsana.

Most of the roads of Darsana are narrow, uneven and cracks and potholes have developed at many points of the town. After a slight rainfall the roads become muddy and slippery. During the rainy season water remains stagnant causing difficulties to pedestrians and traffic movement.

Anti-social activities in bazar areas are also increasing as most of the street lights remain without bulbs or with fused bulbs.

The Darsana pourashava authority are trying utmost to solve all those problems but fails for want of necessary funds, it was learnt.

### Man arrested for cheating

**From Our Correspondent**  
**SATKHIRA, Sept 27:** One, Chitta Ranjan Sarkar, 45, of village Noapara under Assuni thana, now residing at village Baruihati under Tala thana was arrested by Satkhira thana police on charge of allegedly cheating unemployed youths as well as others in the district recently.

According to police sources, Chitta Ranjan forging the signature of Director General of NSI (National Security Intelligence), appointed one Nuruzzaman of village Bagat under Kaliganj thana as field officer of NSI in Kaliganj thana and issued forged appointment letter to him after taking Taka 16,000 from him. Sane in the case of one Gopal Chandra Das of Tala thana who was also appointed as librarian of Jhenidah City College by Chittaran forging the signature of the Deputy Commissioner of Jhenidah and Chairman of Jhenidah City College issued an appointment letter to Gopal Chandra Das after taking Taka 15,000 from him. He also gave two false cheques of Agrani Bank Aminia Press area branch under Dhaka amounting to Taka 12,000 and Taka 8,000 respectively to one Shanti Ranjan Mondal who deposited these two cheques in his bank account of Sonal Bank, Katia branch under Satkhira town for cash and after searching the cheques, Sonal Bank authority informed Shanti Ranjan that the cheques were false.

Forging the signature of the First Class Magistrate Court of Satkhira, he also issued a false warrant of arrest against one, Rajab Uddin of Tala thana and demanded Taka 5,000 from him. He identified himself as an Assistant Professor, Department of English Suhrawardi College, Dhaka in the area. In this way, he is cheating the people of the district for long.

Acting on a secret information sadar thana police led by C A Halim Officer-in-Charge with the help of Mosharraf Hossain Deputy Director NSI Satkhira arrested him from Sultapur area of Satkhira town. A case was lodged with Satkhira thana in this connection.

### Hilsha fish available at cheaper rates

**From Our Correspondent**  
**JHENIDAH, Sept 27:** Price of hilsha fish has fallen in different markets of the district during last one week, it was learnt.

According to reports, in the hats and bazars of Saikupa, Jhenidah, Kaliganj, Kotchandpur and Mohepur thanas of the district one kilogram of hilsha fish was being sold between Taka 20 and 45 instead of earlier price of Taka 100 and 120 a few days back.

When contacted some wholesale and retail fish traders of Jhenidah told that the supply of the hilsha has increased in the markets due to heavy catching in the southern parts of the country. They also told that acute scarcity of ice is prevailing in the southern parts and the fishermen who were engaged with catching fish are compelled to sell hilsha at a lower rate finding no other alternative, it was learnt.