

National

TB patients increasing in Madaripur, Shariatpur

MADRIPUR, Jan 3: The tuberculosis TB patients are increasing day by day in Madaripur and Shariatpur districts, reports UNB.

According to a survey conducted by a social welfare organisation, there are about 1.30 lakh TB patients in these two districts — about 60,000 in four thanas of Madaripur and 70,000 in four thanas of Shariatpur.

Of them, about 13,000 patients are spreading the disease.

There is no TB hospital in the districts for 23 lakh people. The only TB clinic at Madaripur cannot cope with the patients. Moreover, it has been facing various problems. The X-ray machine is out of order for two years hampering the treatment badly. There are only one Consultant and one Medical Officer in the clinic.

Besides, the clinic has also been facing other problems like shortage of employees, want of staff quarters and shortage of pure water supply.

The survey report said thousands of people have been working in three jute mills and bidi factories of the two districts and working in these mills for a long time causes TB disease.

One Veterinary doctor said taking of meat and milk of TB affected cattlehead also cause TB disease to the human being.

11-member district committee of BMA formed in Sirajganj

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Jan 3: The 11-member district committee was formed on December 25 last in the biannual conference of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) at the hallroom of local Medical Assistant Training School (MATS).

With Dr Sujabuzzaman in the chair, among others Prof M A Majed, Dr Sharifuddin Ahmed, Dr Jahurul Haq Raza and Dr Rezaul Karim spoke on the occasion.

Dr Rezaul Karim was elected the president and Dr Akramuzzaman was elected the general secretary of Sirajganj district unit of BMA for 1995-97 period.

3 dacoits held, arms, ammunitions recovered in Satkhira

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, Jan 3: Satkhira thana police arrested three dacoits from Rajnagar bazar area under satkhira thana while they were escaping with booties after committing dacoity at the house of Elahi Baks Moral of village Debnagar of the same thana on December 28 last.

The arrested dacoits are Rajab Ali, 40, and Ziad Ali, 36, of village Nehalpur under Keshabpur thana of Jessor district and Golam Kibria of village Debnagar under satkhira thana in Satkhira district.

One Shuster gun, one pipe gun and one gun including four rounds of cartridges were also recovered from their possession.

According to Satkhira satkhira thana police sources, on the day of occurrence, a group of dacoits numbering 8 to 10 armed with fire weapons entered the house of Elahi Baks Moral and at gun point looted valuables worth about Tk 50,000. While trying to flee, petrol police led by OC, Satkhira thana, CA Halim Chased them near Rajnagar bazar and managed to arrest three of the dacoits.

After interrogating them, police recovered the arms and ammunitions.

Target of Rabi crops, vegetables will not be achieved

NARSINGDI, Jan 3: The target of Rabi crops and vegetables will not be achieved this year due to acute crisis and exorbitant prices of fertilizers, pesticides and other inputs at the peak season, reports UNB.

According to the Agriculture Extension Department, 10,000 hectares of land were brought under wheat cultivation. 3,0000 hectares under potato, 5,000 hectares under mustard and 5,000 hectares under vegetable cultivation.

Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation supplied small quantity of wheat, potato, mustard and vegetable seeds which were said to be of low quality. As a result, most of the farmers had to purchase seeds at exorbitant prices from the open market.

Potato seeds per kg is being sold at Tk 25 as against Tk 15, wheat seeds at Tk 15 as against Tk 13 and mustard seeds at Tk 25 per kg as against Tk 22.

As a consequent, a good number of farmers could not cultivate their land during the season.

Heavy siltation in river Sitalakhya

Cargo handling at Narayanganj port may face closure

From Ehsanul Haque



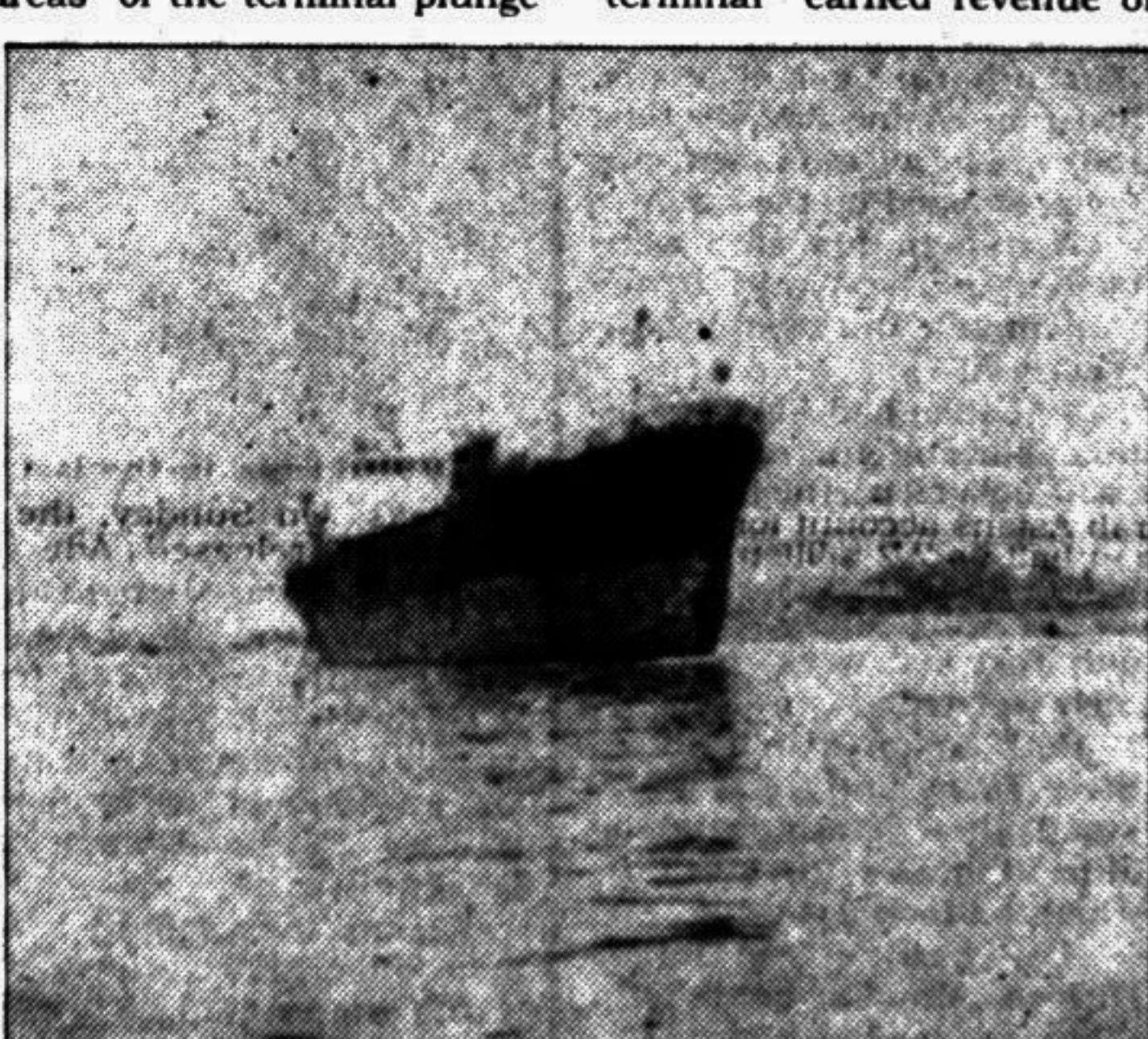
NARAYANGANJ: BIWTA terminal building in Narayanganj port. — Star photo

NARAYANGANJ, Jan 3: The cargo handled at the Narayanganj port may be forced to close down as the water level in the river Sitalakhya has recently drastically fallen threatening navigation of cargo vessels. In the meantime, BIWTA terminal here lacks requisite facilities for the passengers and the traders.

Built at a cost of Taka 45 lakh the two storied terminal building was inaugurated on March 29, 1966. It was designed to ensure amenities with the old river port. There are also 8 CRC jetties, 10 pontoon jetties, 8 godowns covering 62000 cft in the Narayanganj port, officials of the BIWTA said.

Thousands of passengers travelling through this port everyday have been experiencing untold sufferings. It was observed that the terminal and areas around it have turned into common place of gamblers, drug addicts and floating prostitutes. Unsocial activities are carried on without any resistance from the authority, it is alleged. Passengers are often harassed by the drunk gamblers and prostitutes. River traffic police are often seen to take toll from the floating prostitutes and gamblers, it is also alleged.

The waiting rooms and the spaces at the terminal building and its corridors are generally occupied by the vendors. A number of tea-stalls and small shops have also been set up on the platforms which create space problems. The pickpockets have now found this place most suitable for their activities.



NARAYANGANJ: Many cargo ships like the ones in the picture recently taken at the port may not be able to enter the port area as water level continues to fall in river Sitalakhya. — Star photo

NARAYANGANJ: BIWTA terminal building in Narayanganj port. — Star photo

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