

Emergence of shoals in all 4 rivers

Riverine communication in Chandpur seriously affected

From Our Correspondent

CHANDPUR, Jan 16: Rapid fall in the water level of all the rivers in Chandpur and emergence of shoals or char have seriously affected the navigation to and from the district.

Many chars have emerged in many places in the rivers Padma, Meghna, Dakatia and Dhanagoda due to heavy siltation in last few weeks.

It is reported plying of riverine transports in different rivers became very risky as well as time consuming due to emergence of many shoals the rivers.

Emergence of shoals in the rivers is of course, nothing surprising, it appears almost every year in these rivers.

According to Water Development Board sources water level recorded in the Padma,

Meghna and the Dakatia are lower than normal requirement this season.

It is alleged about 10 to 15 feet layer of silt have been carried along the riverbeds of the Padma and Meghna. It is expected that in coming ban period, the ground and surface water levels will go down further seriously affecting the ecological balance and causing crisis in availability of water for both drinking and irrigation purposes. Now the water transport including steamers, launches, country boats plying between Chandpur-Dhaka, Chandpur-Barisal, Chandpur-Khulna have to cover additional distance of 3 to 4 miles to reach destinations.

Passengers of steamers and launches plying on these routes suffer much during

this dry season. Sometimes passengers on board are stranded for hours together in the middle of the river Padma and Meghna as the vessels sometimes hit shoals in midstream. It is learnt, at least 100 launches ply between these routes everyday.

BIWTA is responsible to locate sunken shoals amid the river beds. Dredging of riverbeds are essential. But the rivers Padma, Meghna and the Dakatia are lacking dredging for many years.

Dredging of river beds can easily be done during the dry seasons. Because the sunken shoals appear during the dry seasons. Due to lack of dredging the river transports between these routes are hindering the easy river communication.

No fire stations in thana areas

MADARIPUR, Jan 16:

Three thanas in the district have no fire service stations and valuables worth lakhs of taka are being destroyed every year in the fire incidents in the areas, local people said, reports UNB.

The thanas are Kalkini, Shibchar and Rajoir. The lone fire station in the district headquarters cannot afford services to the thanas in case of emergency.

A number of fire accidents take place in the three thana markets and commercial centres during winter and spring every year.

The road communications between district and thana headquarters are also not good. As a result, fire fighters can not rush to the accident spot.

Local people urged the authorities concerned to take necessary measures in this regard considering safety of public property.

Another report says: Local people mainly journalists and business community have been facing troubles for want of a fax machine in the district headquarters.

They send despatches almost every day. But, for want of a fax machine they have to depend on postal department or courier services which are not so fast.

Government, semi-government and NGO officials have to face also the same problem.

Shortage of teachers

12 lakh children unable to attend school in N-dists

NATORE, Jan 16: At least 12 lakh children of 10,362 villages in 124 thanas of the northern districts are being deprived of primary education for want of schools, lack of necessary equipment and shortage of teachers, reports UNB.

According to a survey conducted by a local NGO revealed that 301 villages of six thanas in Natore district, 245 villages in Rajshahi, 587 villages in Chapainawabganj, 762 villages in Naogaon, 118 villages in Pabna, 626 villages in Sirajganj, 325 villages in Dinajpur, 605 villages in Rangpur, 247 villages in Gaibandha, 120 villages in Joypurhat, 475 villages in Bogra, 885 villages in Thakurgaon, 421 villages in Panchagarh, 185 villages in Kurigram, 73 villages in Lalmonirhat and 137 villages in Nilphamari have no government primary schools.

As a result, 12 lakh children of 6-10-years age are being deprived of compulsory primary education.

The number of school going children in these villages are 42,31,000. Of them 15,72,000 are female students, the survey report added.

At the beginning of last academic year, a total of 33,67,000 children took admission in different primary schools of northern region. Of them, about 25 per

cent left schools before completion of five years schooling due to acute poverty and hardship of their guardians.

The poverty-stricken families cannot afford the educational expenditures of their children and show no interest in this respect, the report says.

Instead, they engage their children in different petty jobs like domestic servants, cowboys, labourers and rickshaw-pullers to maintain their livelihood.

Besides, many of them have to maintain the family with their poor earning, hence, parents do not give due importance to their children's education.

Meanwhile, government's Food for Education Programme failed to meet the necessary demand, an educationist said.

In Natore and other northern districts, implementation of compulsory education programme is facing serious setback due to shortage of schools in fairly large number of villages, shortage of teachers and due to gradual dropouts before completion of five years schooling.

Some local leaders said implementation of "Education for All by the year 2000" programme is hardly possible without creating proper atmosphere in the rural and urban areas.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Bangladesh Telegraph & Telephone Board
Office of the Director Procurement
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No.DP/F-15/IR/95-96/37 Dt. 4-1-96/21-9-1402BS

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International Tender Notice

Sealed tenders are invited from international supplier/manufacturer firms for supply of spare parts for Bell UHF Digital Radio Equipment of Bangladesh T&T Board. Intending tenderers/their representatives can purchase the tender document by written application in their official pad to the undersigned & on payment of Tk. 5000 (five thousand) only as non-refundable price of the schedule on all working days from 9-00 AM to 2-00 PM. No tender document will be sold on the date of opening of tender. Tenders will be received at the above office up to 12-00 Noon (Bangladesh local time) of 28-02-96 and opened on the same day at 12-05 hours (Bangladesh local time) before the tenderers/their representatives (if any) present. No tender schedule will be sold by post. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders in part or whole without assigning any reason.

Md. Moududul Huq
Deputy Director (Foreign Procurement)
Phone: 814339

DFP-749-11/1
G-105



SYLHET: Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman speaking at the inaugural function of the country's first Government Veterinary College in Sylhet on Thursday last. Fisheries and Livestock minister Abdullah-al-Noman, VC Shahjalal University of Science and Technology Professor Sayed Mohibuddin Ahmed and Divisional Commissioner, Sylhet, Md Habibur Rahman also spoke on the occasion.

'Death' of Gorai put thousands of traders into trouble

From Our Correspondent

MAGURA, Jan 16: The flow of water in the river Gorai passing through the district has stopped last December. As a result riverine transport in this river has been disrupted.

The river Gorai is a main tributary of the Padma which rises at four kilometres down stream of Harding Bridge near Talbaria of Kushtia.

According to sources, the source of water in river Gorai is disrupted after the month of August or September due to rapid fall in the water level of the river Padma. As a result Kushtia-Langalbandh riverine route is disrupted and ultimately the distribution of essential merchandise including rice, flour, stationery goods, fuel to the northern parts of Magura and Jhenidah district was forced to stop.

It was learnt that engine driven country boats have be-

come the main riverine transport for carrying merchandise goods from Kushtia, Kumarkhali and Janipur to different hats and bazars in Magura and Jhenidah, the country boats have monopolised about 60 km long river route. More than hundred boats ply on this route in the rainy season.

Talking to M Malek majht, it was learnt that traders who carry their merchandise have been suffering a lot due to suspension of boat serve. Almost 10 thousand maunds of essential goods have been carried by boat through this riverine route from Kushtia town to different hats and bazars of Jhenidah and Magura districts. Besides, they carried timber, fodder, jute etc to Kushtia, Janipur and Kumarkhali from different areas of Jhenidah and Magura districts.

He said that 80 per cent

essential commodities of the northern parts of Magura and Jhenidah districts have been supplied from Kushtia town since 1950 through this riverine route by boats.

Usually five thousand maunds of essential goods are carried from Kushtia town to Khulumbaria, Langalband, Amalsar, Mrigibagar, Tikerbilla and Narua bazar every week by their engine driven country boats. Hundreds of boatmen have become unemployed due to 'death' of this riverine route.

S M Kundu, an established merchant of Langalbandh bazar in Magura district said, they have to bring their merchandise from Kushtia by truck via Jhenidah and Magura which is about 90 km long route, due to death of the riverine transport route of Gorai river. As a result the carrying cost of their goods is very high.



JHENIDAH: Abdul Haq, Deputy Commissioner, Jhenidah delivering speech as chief guest on the concluding ceremony of weeklong book fair held at Jhenidah DC office premises recently. — Star Photo

Two bodies recovered in Satkhira

SATKHIRA, Jan 16: Two bodies were recovered on Saturday last from separate spots in Kaliganj thana of the district, reports UNB.

According to police and witnesses, body of Shahidul, 25, of Ghona was recovered from near the Satpur bridge. The body bore several cut marks.

On the same day, Shimu, 12, drowned in a pond near Kaliganj bus terminal. Local people recovered the floating body. The reason behind the incident could not be known.

Meanwhile, law enforcing agencies arrested two activists of outlawed Sharbahara Party and extortionist on Saturday last. They were identified as Lutfur, Mohan and Wazed. Separate cases were lodged with the police.

Body of blind beggar recovered

JHALAKATI, Jan 16: Body of a blind beggar, drowned in the river Sugandha last week, was recovered yesterday from Bishkhali river near Napiter Hat in sadar thana, reports UNB.

The victim Rafiqul Islam, 18, fell into the river while boarding on a launch "MV Golem Rasul" on January 8 at Jhalakati launch ghat, witnesses said.

Army pick up 2 JCD activists

JHALAKATI, Jan 16: Two leaders of the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) were picked up by the Army personnel from Nalchhiti thana headquarters today, reports UNB.

The Army picked up Nalchhiti thana JCD president Touhid Alam Khan and a member, Mithu.

11 feared drowned in Bhola trawler capsizes

BARISAL, Jan 16: Eleven persons, most of them women and children, are feared drowned in the Tetulia river of Bhola district when a trawler capsized Monday, police said, reports BSS.

Some businessmen of Aekanda area of Barisal town hired a trawler for picnic with their family members and started for Bhola Sunday morning. On the way, the trawler capsized in the mid-stream of Tetulia river near Shantirhat under south Dighaldi union of Bhola Sadar thana at around noon due to excess loading.

Some 80 people of the party swam to the shore or were rescued by the fishermen in the river.

The whereabouts of the rest 11 persons, including women and children, could not be known, the source added.



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EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

HSC (Sc) Second Division with Physics and Mathematics.

OTHER ELIGIBILITY

Nationality

Male Citizen of Bangladesh.

Height

Minimum 1.63 metres (5'4").

Age on 30 June 1996

16½ yrs to 22 yrs.

Weight

According to age and height

Chest

Minimum 81.28 cm (32") with 5.08 cm (2") expansion.

Marital Status

Unmarried

INELIGIBILITY

- Twice Screened out/ Twice Rejected/ Screened out once and rejected twice by ISSB
- Withdrawn/Discharged from Army/Navy/ Air Force or any other Govt Service.
- Convicted by any Court.
- Rejected by Appeal Medical Board.
- Incomplete information in the Application Form.

WRITTEN TEST

IQ, English, Physics and Mathematics.

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED WITH THE APPLICATION FORM

- Attested copies of all Academic Certificates/Testimonials and Mark-sheets.
- Nationality Certificate with marital status from Class-I Gazetted Officer or Union Parishad/ Municipal Chairman.
- Two copies recent passport size photograph duly attested by Class-I Gazetted Officer.
- No Objection Certificate from the Head of the Organization (for serving person).

SELECTION PROCEDURE

a. Preliminary Selection Test at I&SC, BAF, b. ISSB, c. Medical Examination by CMB, d. Final Selection by Air Headquarters.

TRAINING PERIOD/AWARD OF ACADEMIC DEGREE/COMMISSION

- Initial Joint Services Training at Bangladesh Military Academy, Bhatian, for 12 weeks.
- Academic and Flying Training for 2½ years at BAF Academy, Jessore.
- Award of B.Sc (Aero) degree from National University and grant of commission in the rank of Pilot Officer, on successful completion of training.
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PAY & ALLOWANCES ON COMMISSIONING

- Basic Pay: Tk. 2850/- to Tk. 8900/- Plus 10%
- Flying Pay: Tk. 1120/- to Tk. 1400/-
- Other Pay & allowances: Tk. 1191/- to Tk. 3277/-

Selection test will start on 20 January '96 and will continue throughout the year. Applications received upto 15 May '96 will be considered for Course No. 37 commencing on 02 July '96 and those received after 15 May '96 for subsequent course/s.

For additional information please Contact I&SC, BAF, Old Airport, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215, Tel: 888011, Ext: 4255 & 5149

COLLECTION AND SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FORM

- Prescribed Application Form may be collected from BAF Information and Selection Centre, Old Airport, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215 on submission of a Bank Draft/Pay Order of Tk. 75.00 (Non-refundable) which should be issued in favour of "Central Non-Public Fund, BAF. Bank Draft/Pay Order should be payable to Agrani/Sonali/Janata/Rupali Bank of Mohakhali/Farmgate/Kawran Bazar/ Cantonment Branch of Dhaka Area.
- The application form may also be obtained by post on submission of above Bank Draft/Pay Order along with a self-addressed envelope (Size: 9"X4") which must be affixed with stamps of Tk. 8.00.
- Application form should be submitted by the candidate physically on the date of examination mentioned in the application form. No application form will be entertained if it is sent by mail.

Sl. No. 01/96 of file No. Air HQ/10609/Rect
dt 08 Jan 96.



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