

Bogra flood
Four drown

BOGRA, July 26: The flood situation of the district has taken an alarming turn washing away four people in three thanas on Thursday, reports UNB. According to the district flood control room, two people drowned in Dhunot thana, one in Sharikandi and another in Sherpur thanas. Some 72,000 families at 351 villages in Dhunot, Sharikandi and Sonatola thanas have been affected by the flood onslaught. Road communication between Dhunot and Sherpur thanas remained cut off as a bridge was washed away by the rolling flood water.

Woman awarded
life term for
kidnapping,
trafficking

From Our Correspondent
SATAKHIRA, July 26: One Woman was found guilty and awarded life term imprisonment in the district recently.

One Abul Bibi, wife of late Shaharuddin Sardar of village Dewan Ali Pramanik Para under Melandah thana of Jamalpur district was sentenced her to suffer life term imprisonment by Md Alauddin Sardar District and Session Judge Satkhira on charge of kidnapping and trafficking a male child. The prosecution story in brief is that one Mintu, fish age two and half, son of Bannu Rishi of village Hajipur under Shyamnagar while playing on the embankment of his village, the accused Abul Bibi kidnapped him. While attempting to traffic him to India, local people caught her redhanded. A case was lodged with Shyamnagar thana. After investigation, police submitted chargesheet against her.

Minor girl
drowns

From Our Correspondent
SATAKHIRA, July 26: One Mukta, 3, daughter of Abdul Khaleq Mollah of village Chandpur under Shyamnagar thana drowned in a pond near her house on July 21 last. It is reported that the ill-fated girl while playing by the side of the pond, suddenly slipped and fell into the pond. Later her body was recovered by the villagers.

Microbus with
smuggled Indian
sarees seized

From Our Correspondent
SATAKHIRA, July 26: The jawans of 21 Rifles Battalion Satkhira recovered huge quantity of Indian sarees from a microbus on July 20 last. They also seized the microbus and arrested the driver of the microbus and manager Nirbill hatchery. Local BDR sources said, the microbus of Nirbill hatchery (No Chittagong Metro Cha-02-1412) while going to Khulna and reached the battalion headquarters checkpoint, the BDR jawans on duty searched the microbus and recovered huge Indian sarees from it. A case was lodged with Satkhira PS.

Misceants stab
father failing to
kidnap daughter

From Our Correspondent
FARIDPUR, July 26: Miscereants stabbed father being failed to kidnap daughter on the night of July 10, police said. It is learnt that on the night of incident, Bhagabati Karmaker, 17, daughter of Prafulla Kumar Karmaker of village Baish Rashi under Sadarpur thana was sleeping in her bedroom with her mother. The miscreants of the same village entered her room forcefully and tried to kidnap Bhagabati. But when her father resisted them, the miscreants stabbed him and left the scene. A case was lodged with Sadarpur thana accusing five persons in this connection.

Flood situation
in Madaripur
unchanged

MADARIPUR, July 26: The overall flood situation of the district remained unchanged as Ariakhan river was flowing 65 cm above its danger mark, reports UNB. Some five lakh people in 58 unions of the district have been marooned by the flood water, inundating many shops in the town this (Friday) morning. Witnesses said a minor boy drowned in the flood water at Shibechar thana on Wednesday. Road communication between the town and different parts of the district remained disrupted as various roads either went under water or washed away by the swirling flood water. Meanwhile, the authorities concerned have opened five centres in the town to shelter the flood affected people. Some 48 bridges and culverts, 31 educational institutions, and crops on about 18,796 hectares of land have so far been damaged by the flood water.

Flood in Chandpur

Fresh areas inundated

From Our Correspondent.

CHANDPUR, July 26: Flood situation at Chandpur deteriorated further as fresh areas were inundated with the rise of water level at the rivers

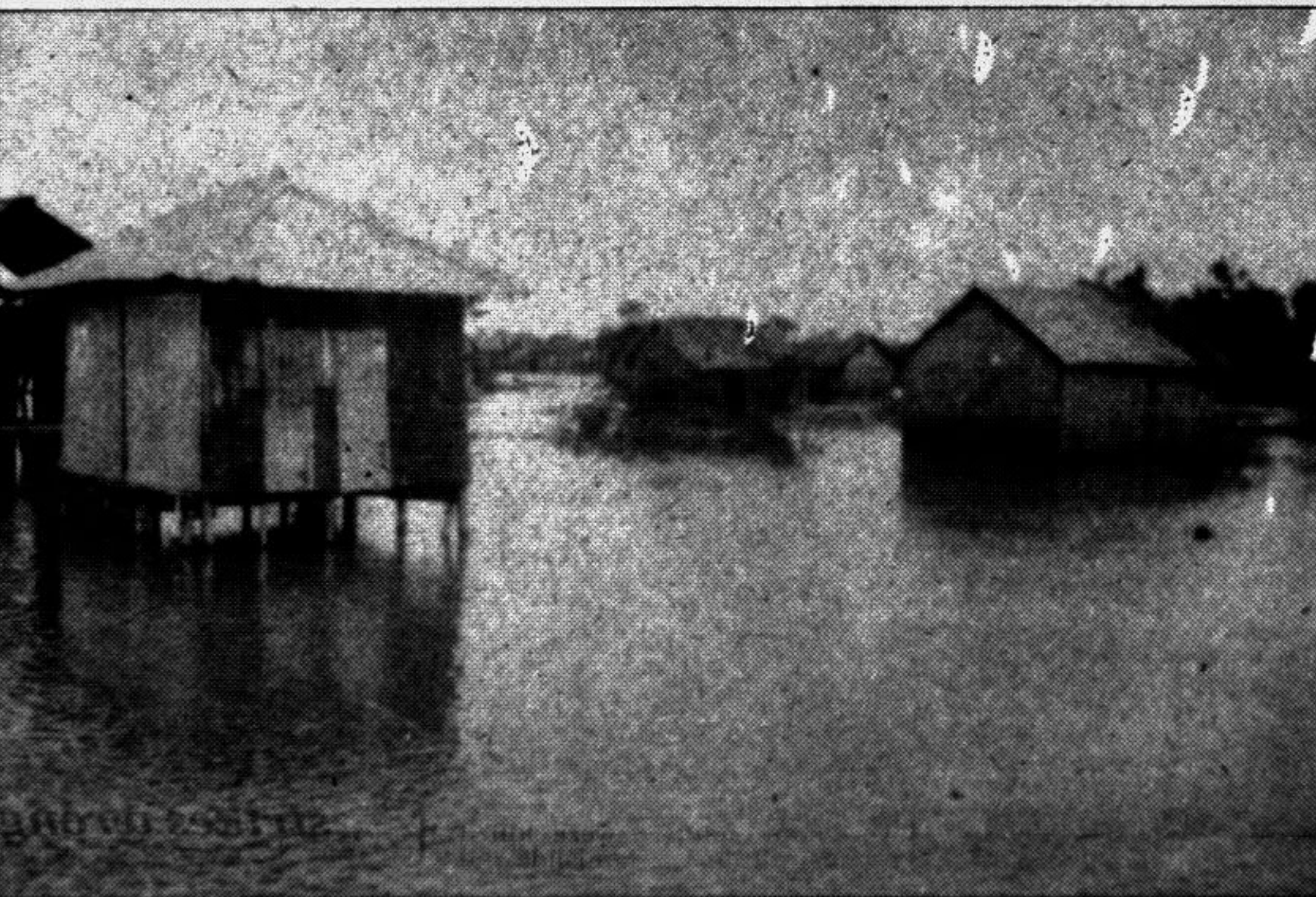
ected unions are Rajrajesar, Bishnudi, Bishnupur, Kalanpur, Tarpur Chandri Hanarchar, Ibrahimpur, Charbhairabi, Isanbala, Raicherchar, Farajikandi, Saitnal, Ekhlaspur.

According to Chandpur flood control office sources, badly affected areas are Taitala staff colony, Bishnudi Bank colony, Bhuiyan Bari road, Professor para road.



CHANDPUR: Flood affected people of Rajrajesar union under Chandpur thana.

Meghna, the Dakatia and the Dhanagoda. About ten thousand people of Rajrajesar union are marooned. Relief operation has already started! It is alleged that the relief



CHANDPUR: Flood affected area of Nazirpara under Chandpur municipality.

unions of Chandpur district are badly affected by the flood. The badly affected thanas of the district are Chandpur, Haziaganj, and Matlab. The badly affected areas are also inundated. on Chandpur irrigation project and Matlab Meghna-Dhanagoda Project embankments. A vast areas of Chandpur municipality are also inundated. is insufficient. Tk 50 thousand, 24 metric tons of rice, biscuits, clothes and other relief materials were distributed by the district administration.

Flood situation in Jamalpur improves, sufferings mount

From Our Correspondent

JAMALPUR, July 26: The overall flood situation in the district is improving as water level in the rivers showed signs of gradual recession, the flood control room sources said here.

According to the flood control room duty officer, at least 3.5 lakh people have been badly and 1.5 lakh people partially affected in seven thanas of the district, of them one lakh people took shelter on different safer places. About 25,000 dwelling houses were completely damaged while 10,000 partially. Standing crop one lakh acres of land completely and one lakh acres of land partially. About 200 educational institutions including 55 non-government and 50 NGO's primary schools have been destroyed by the flood waters. About 8,000 km kutcha and 18 km pacca road damaged. 21 culvert have been badly damaged by the flood water of the Jamuna and Bhagmati.

More than 500 feet Harindara WDB-Jamuna flood control embankment devoured by the erosion during the period.

District administration disbursed Taka 50,000 in cash and other relief materials including 50 metric tons of

wheat have so far distributed among the affected people. Forty unions out of 67 unions of the district are still submerged. They only means of communication from village to village is mechanised boats. Over 50 families have been taken shelter on the Jamalpur Public Hall while acute scarcity of pure drinking water is prevailing, it is learnt. Road communication between Jamalpur to Sherpur, and district town to all the town still remained disrupted.

Sarishabari pourashava chairman Md Shamim Talukdar told this correspondent that, about 10,000 families were badly affected and 500 dwelling houses were badly damaged due to flood in the poura areas. Now diarrhoeal diseases spread out in the flood affected areas. About 1500 people already attacked with diarrhoeal diseases of flood affected areas, according to hospital sources. Saline and medicine not available in the flood affected areas.

Train passengers suffer in Kishoreganj

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, July 26: Woes of railway passengers travelling on Bhairab-Mymensingh line are increasing day by day. Absence of some basic amenities has made the train journey for many a passenger troublesome for long. Late arrival of trains is a regular feature causing immense troubles to the waiting passengers particularly, the women, children and old people.

Only six trains run up and down on this line to cope with thousand of passengers every day. The trains, therefore, often run over crowded. To make things worse only one or two small and damaged compartments are attached to the trains. As many a passenger find it very difficult to get up the compartments due to heavy rush of people. They often travel by hanging on the foot-board at the risk of life. Besides, some people are found carrying their goods, particularly bales of clothes, gunny bags and even fish in the passengers compartments, instead of putting the same in luggage vans. Fans, water-tapes and lights in almost all the compartments remain out of order causing inconvenience, especially to the women and children. Moreover, compartments and latrines are not cleaned regularly. Another problem is that there is no separate compartment for the women passengers, who can hardly board the train in the rush of male passengers. No trains normally have more than one second class compartment and most of the seats are generally found occupied by the passengers having either third class tickets or no tickets at all. The passengers on this route expect the authority concerned to do the needful to mitigate the sufferings of the people.



SYLHET: A non-resident Bangladeshi social worker Shah Md Abrur Mia distributed saree, lungi and money in cash among 500 flood victims at villages Burakhah, Dashnagao and Harinakundi under Jagannathpur thana of Sunamganj on Saturday.

Jahanara fights for her life

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, July 26: One Jahanara Begum, 18, of village Bochagari under Sunderganj thana is fighting for life at Sunderganj Thana Health complex after being mercifully beaten up by her husband on the issue of dowry.

According to the family sources, Abul Kalam (25) of village Chicha under Sunderganj thana married Jahanara prior to five months. The father of Jahanara Ujjiruddin is a victim of river erosion and has been living on Brahmaputra flood control embankment since his homestead and properties were eroded by the river Teesta. He could not even maintain family with his small earning. Meanwhile, he settled marriage of his daughter with the son of one Delwar Hossain. But the father of bridegroom demanded Tk 20,000 as dowry. The matter was, however, settled on payment of cash Tk 5,000 on the assurance of paying remaining amount later.

On the issue of paying dowry of remaining amount the husband continued to push on Jahanara and often asked her to collect money from father-in-law.

It was beyond the capacity of poor father of Jahanara to pay Tk 15,000 on July 10 a quarrel developed among the husband and wife on the same issue. When the husband rebuked wife using filthy language she at one time countered it. At one stage the husband flew into rage and started beating Jahanara mercilessly which the victim fell unconscious. Later, she was removed to Sunderganj health complex in critical condition where she is still fighting for life.

BKB gives Tk 46cr in greater Faridpur

From Our Correspondent

FARIDPUR, July 26: Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKB) disbursed loans of Taka 46 crore and 55 lakh among the farmers of five districts of greater Faridpur in the last fiscal year, according to bank source.

The source said that the Bank distributed 80 per cent of the money earmarked for distribution among the farmers of Faridpur, Rajbari, Gopalgonj, Shariatpur and Madaripur districts of the disbursed money, 12 crore and 45 lakh for Faridpur, 6 crore and 98 lakh for Gopalgonj, 8 crore and 10 lakh for Madaripur, 10 crore and 2 lakh for Shariatpur and 9 crore for Rajbari districts were distributed.

One killed in road accident

From Our Correspondent

SATAKHIRA, July 26: A twelve year old boy was crushed under the wheel of a truck near at Mahmudpur on Satkhira-Bhokra road on July 21 last.

According to Satkhira thana police sources, a speedy fertilizer loaded truck (No Satkhira TA 02-0005,) from Bhokra Land Port while reached the place of occurrence crushed one Kumi, 12, son of SK Arshad Ali and he died on the spot. A case was lodged with Satkhira Police Station.

Notorious dacoit arrested

From Our Correspondent

FARIDPUR, July 26: Shahidul Islam Shahid, a notorious interdistrict dacoit leader was nabbed on July 20 last.

It is learnt that Shahidul Islam was wanted by the police for his involvements in several dacoity and murder cases. There are several cases against him at different thanas of Rajbari, Faridpur and Magura districts.

He was absconding for a long time. But the police could not trace him out. The people of Mājhibari bus-stand under Madhukhali thana caught him while he was waiting for a bus in disguise and handed him over to Madhukhali police.

Pirates loot fishing trawler

From Our Correspondent

PATUAKHALI, July 26: A gang of pirates swooped on a fishing trawler in the Bay of Bengal and looted fish and fishing nets from the fishermen on Tuesday, reports UNB.

Police said two fishermen — Khalil (30) and Taher (40) — received bullet injuries in the attack. They were admitted to Pathorghata Health Complex and later shifted to Barisal Medical College Hospital.

Extortionists injure 7 house inmates

From Our Correspondent

PATUAKHALI, July 26: Seven people were injured in an attack at Baharampur village in Dashmina thana on Wednesday night, reports UNB.

Police said a gang of extortionists entered the house of Sekandar Ali Bepari at dead of night and hit the inmates with sharp weapons after they refused to pay them toll.

A case was filed with the local police.



GAIBANDHA: Banana tree raft is the only means of transport in the flood affected Fulchari thana of the district. — Star photo

Flood water receding from Gaibandha at a very slow pace

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, July 26: Flood situation in the district is improving but at a slow pace with the recession of water level in Teesta and Brahmaputra basin.

Although the water level is receding the situation is yet to be normal in different char lands under Sunderganj, Gaibandha sadar, Fulchari and Sahggahata thanas. Road communication, however, was restored a few days back with all flood-hit thanas of the district which left trail of devastation. But the internal road communication still remain snapped in different unions and villages where banana tree raft is the only means of transport for the villagers.

Miseries of the people of Gaibandha district multiplied as crisis for food, drinking water and employment increased. All the pretty businesses of villagers remain suspended. Labourers turned to jobless cattleheads, meanwhile, took

the shape of skeleton for want of adequate fodder. Many of the poultry birds died of flood water. All these happened due to long standing flood hit since July 2. Flood water started to recede from Gaibandha poura area yet there are two to three feet water in low lying lanes and by-lanes. In the meantime, prices of essentials specially the green vegetables shot up due to short supply as most of the vegetable fields went under flood water. Crisis of drinking water is acute in flood hit areas. Public Health Engineering Department although sunk a few tube-well and repaired a number of old tube-wells are not adequate to the requirement. Meanwhile, attack of water borne diseases broke out in different flood affected areas where proper medicine is yet to be introduced. Some NGOs are distributing water purifying medicine among the flood hit people.

Boost in fish production possible in CHT

From Our Correspondent

KHAGRACHHARI, July 26: The people of the three districts of Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) have been suffering from protein deficiency due to scarcity of fish, reports UNB.

No government of private initiative has yet been taken to patronise pisciculture among the hilly people to meet the growing deficiency. According to an official estimate, a total of 23, 268 tons of fish are required annually for about 10 lakh people in the CHT, whereas the local production is only about 7,840 tons. In the CHT, the ponds and lakes, less in number in comparison with the country's other region, produce fish which is much below the requirement due to lack patronisation. Besides, there are many Jhiris (canal) where planned pisciculture is possible to boost production. During the 1984-85 fiscal, some farmers in Bandarban

district with the help of the CHT Development Board produced huge quantity of fish by creating lake after making embankments along the Jhiris. The number of ponds and lakes is approximately 838 in about 5,089 square miles area of the CHT and no fish is being produced in at least 70 per cent of those waterbodies. Despite potentials, the waterbodies could not be brought under pisciculture programme as the poor tribal and non-tribal people of the region cannot afford to bear the cost of the cultivation. Moreover, Fisheries Department has excluded many CHT areas anticipating lesser prospect for pisciculture. If the interested cultivators are provided with enough bank loan and other facilities the production of fish in the region would definitely be increased and fulfil the demands of the local people, local leaders said.

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Dacoities in flood-hit village

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, July 26: A dacoity was committed at the house of one Sontosh Kumar Barman of village Daryapaur under Gaibandha Sadar Thana on Sunday last. The miscreants decamped with goods and valuables. At dead of night, a group of dacoits raided the house of Sontosh. They beat up the inmates of house and decamped with six bags full of paddy and other valuables at deadly weapons points. None came to the help despite hue and cry due to the flood water. A case was registered.

Disorder ambulance

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, July 26: Three ambulances of Gaibandha sadar hospital, Sunderganj thana health complex and Palashbari Thana health complex went out of order since last year. Concerned authority is yet to take initiative to repair those emergency vehicles. As a result, patients requiring shifting for better treatment are being disappointed in time of emergency. On the other hand, there is no ambulance in Gobindaganj Thana health complex which is most important thana of the district.

1.5 acres of land to be brought under Aman cultivation

From Our Correspondent

BHOLA, July 26: About 1.50 lakh acres of land have been brought under transplanted aman cultivation in the district during the current season, reports UNB. District Agriculture Extension Department has taken up the programme with a production target of 2.76 lakh metric tons of paddy. Of the total, 53,200 acres have been brought under high yielding variety while the rest 1.02 lakh acres under local variety. Officials said about 500 demonstration plots have been set up in block level to acquaint the farmers with the modern methods of cultivation. Meanwhile, the farmers have been provided with loans, high yielding variety seeds and other necessary inputs to make the scheme a success.



SHERPUR: Shahabdir Char Girls High School under Kamarer Char union hit by the recent flood. — Star photo

Measures to minimise sufferings of flood, erosion-hit victims

From Our Correspondent

SHARIATPUR, July 26: The government has undertaken all-out measures to minimise the sufferings of river erosion and flood affected people, said LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman, reports UNB.

Relief operations in the flood affected areas has been geared up, he said while visiting the flood affected and river erosion-hit areas of Palerchar, Kunderchar and Kalmirchar on Thursday.

The Minister also distributed relief materials including rice, sarees among the flood victims at Zazira thana. He said a massive post-flood rehabilitation programme has been taken up by the government in the area. Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak and local parliament Members Col (ret'd) Shawkat Ali and Prof Khaleda Khanam were present. The LGRD Minister said as part of rehabilitation programme the government would resink tubewells and provide spare parts free of cost to the affected areas and install new tubewells to ensure safe water. Zillur called upon the people to face the natural calamity with courage and fortitude. More relief materials will be provided, if necessary, he said. The Minister said damaged roads, bridges and culverts would be reconstructed on an emergency basis after the receding of flood water. Abdur Razzak said adequate measures would be taken to rehabilitate the flood victims so that the affected people could start their normal life. He said Tk 10 lakh had been sanctioned for the flood affected and river erosion-hit people of the areas from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund. Later, the Minister attended a public meeting at Zazira Girls High School.