

**One slaughtered in Jhenidah**

From Our Correspondent  
**JHENIDAH, Aug 9** Md Mumin Uddin, 40, of village Subornachora in Kaliganj thana was shot and slaughtered by some unknown armed men this morning.  
 According to police, the armed men numbering seven or eight caught him while he was returning home from a local bazar and allegedly killed him. The reasons behind the killing could not be known.  
 A case was filed with Kaliganj thana but none was arrested till filing this report this evening.

**Tempo driver killed in road accident**

From Our Correspondent  
**FARIDPUR, Aug 9** A tempo driver was killed in a road accident at Bakchar under Kotwali thana on July 29, according to hospital source.

It is learnt that on the day of incident the driver Munnaf, 25, of village Baherdia under Nogaranda thana was going to attend a function with all his family members on a tempo (mini scooter). When the tempo reached the place of incident suddenly turned turtle and fell into roadside ditch injuring Munnaf seriously. He was rushed to Faridpur general hospital in a critical condition where the attending doctors declared him dead.

The post-mortem examination of the body was held at the hospital morgue.  
 A case was lodged with Kotwali thana in this connection.

**FSM makes Tk 2.5 lakh profit in 1995-96**

From Our Correspondent  
**FARIDPUR, Aug 9** Faridpur Sugar Mills (FSM), the biggest public sector industrial unit of the district, has made a net profit of Tk 2.5 lakh during the 1995-96 crushing season, reports UNB.

Officials said the mills crushed 195 metric tons of sugarcane, 3.06 per cent up from its target, in 180 days of the crushing period and produced 15,879 metric tons of sugar.  
 The mills also achieved 100 per cent success in realising loan disbursed among the sugarcane growers of the mills in Faridpur, Rajbari, Gopalganj and Magura districts during the period.

**Dacoity in Faridpur**

From Our Correspondent  
**FARIDPUR, Aug 9** A dacoity was committed in the house of one Chittaranjan Chowdhury near Dhuldi rail gate in Sadar thana on the night of July 22, according to police source.

It is reported that a gang of dacoits numbering 5 to 7 armed entered the house at night and looted cash taka and other valuables worth over Taka 30 thousand.  
 A case was lodged with Kotwali thana in this connection.

**Three injured in clashes in Kushtia**

From Our Correspondent  
**KUSHTIA, Aug 9** Three persons were injured when a clash ensued among Kushtia Truck and Trunk Lorry Sramic Sarak Paribahan Union and members of Zila Motor Sramic Union in Khoksa thana recently.

The injured are Tarik, Alam and Fakir. Both the parties filed cases in Khoksa police station. Tension is prevailing. Police administration is trying to take adequate steps to avoid further clash. Leaders of both the organisation are blaming each other and no compromise has yet been reached.

**Three commit suicide on same day in Jhenidah**

From Our Correspondent  
**JHENIDAH, Aug 9** Three women including an age old woman committed suicide in Jhenidah sadar thana recently, according to police sources.

Police said, Parvin Akter, 20, wife of Ahsan of village Porahati committed suicide by taking pesticide at about 7 am. She was rushed to Jhenidah sadar hospital and the physicians declared her death. The cause of the suicide could not be known.

According to another report, Nekban Bibi, 70, of village Mahamaya committed suicide by hanging herself on the same day. Police said, Nekban hanged with her saree in her house at about 4 pm. The reason behind the suicide could not be known.

Maju Khatun, 55, wife of Late Aferuddin of village Chandjani in sadar thana committed suicide taking pesticides on the same day.

Reports say, the women committed suicide in the evening. The cause of the incident was not known.  
 Separate unnatural death (UD) cases were filed with Jhenidah thana, police said.

**Magura Textile Mills becomes a losing concern**

From Monojit Kumar Das

**MAGURA, Aug 9** Magura Textile Mills, the most profitable government industry under Bangladesh Textile Mills Corporation (BTMC) in the district has recently become a losing concern due to various causes.

According to the official sources, the production of Magura Textile Mill has been stopped due to lack of raw materials and necessary fund. As a result, about one thousand workers and officers and other employees are not getting their salaries for the last two months.

Sources informed, Magura Textile Mill under BTMC is the only industry in Magura district which has 58 ring machines for producing different categories of thread from cotton.

The production target of these ring machines are 12 thousand pounds thread of 20, 32, 40 and 60 counts per day. But the target of thread production has been reduced rapidly due to lack of requisite amount of cotton and money. Only five rings were being run for two or three months which

produced only four to five hundred pounds of thread per day. Now the work of these five ring machines has been totally stopped due to shortage of cotton, sources added.  
 There are 767 workers, 139 employees for management and 16 officials in Magura Textile Mill. They have no work in the mill for want of raw materials.

Talking to some workers of the mill it was learnt that they have not received salaries for the month of June and July as there is no money in the fund

of the mill.  
 According to a reliable source, the mill incurred average loss of Taka 30 lakh per month for last few months.  
 Sources also informed that the mill owed to Bangladesh Shilpa Bank Taka 19 crore. The interests of the loan is increasing gradually.

Besides, the mills also owe to Agrani Bank Taka one crore twenty lakh for productive sector. The mill has to pay a large amount of money as electric bill which is lying outstanding, sources added.



**FARIDPUR**: A scene of erosion by the Padma at Abdul Gafur Haridhar Dangi under Char Bhadraran thana in Faridpur district. — Star photo

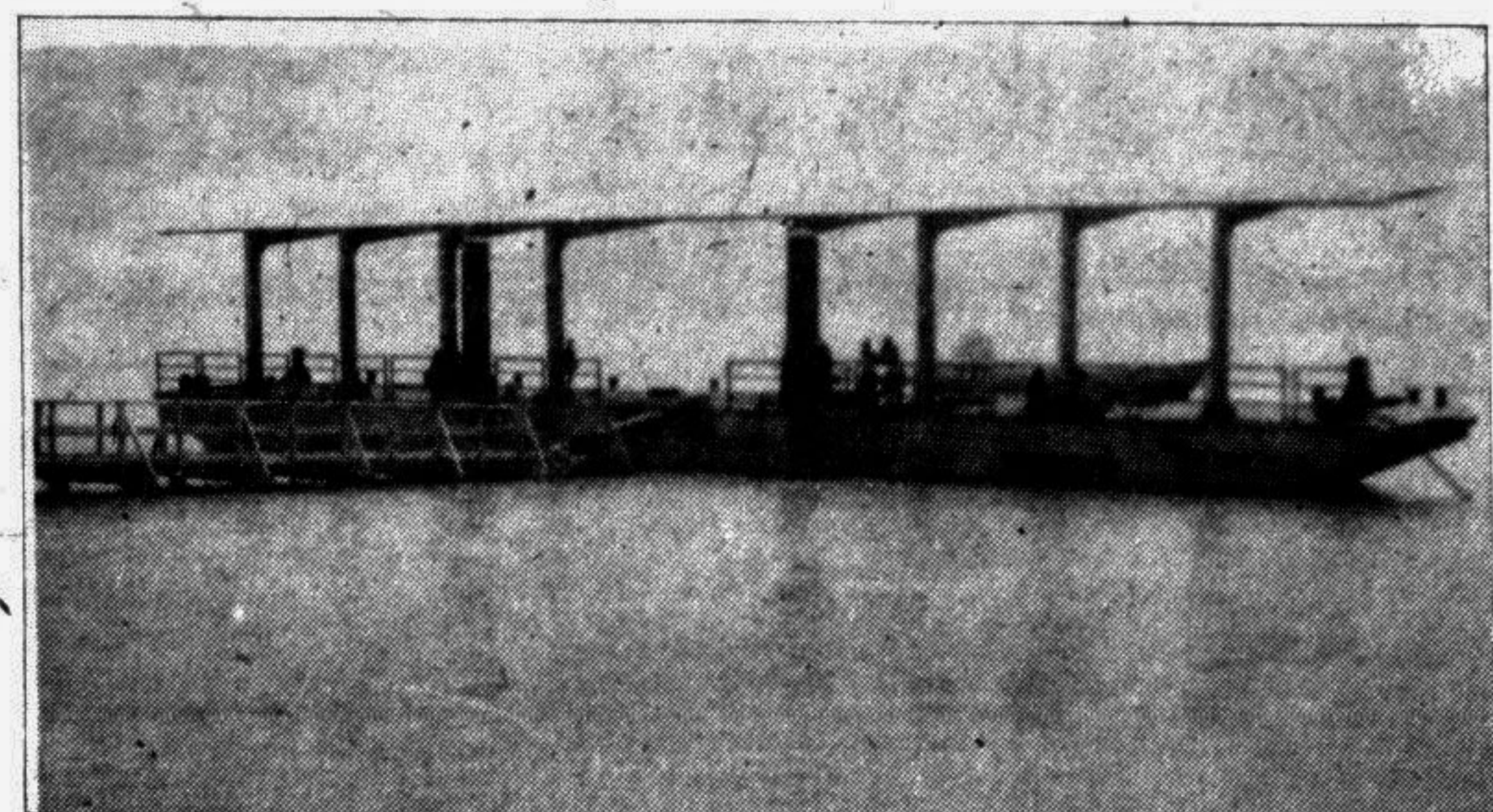
**New executive body of Kushtia gymnastic club**

From Our Correspondent

**KUSHTIA, Aug 9** Biennial general meeting of Kushtia Gymnastic Club was held on Friday last with Alhaj Shorabuddin in chair. Khondokar Israil Hossain Apu, chief advisor of the club and former president and former upazila chairman of Mirpur thana was the chief guest.

The meeting elected new Executive Committee with Alhaj Shorabuddin and Abdur Rashid as president and general secretary respectively for next two years term.

Other members are Monjurul Islam Sami, vice president, Shaikh Saad Ali vice president, Mukul Hossain joint secretary, Abdur Rakib assistant general secretary, Ruhul Amin treasurer, Kamrul Huq office secretary, and Executive Committee members are Ratan Kumar Pal, Toufique Ahmed Tapas, Babul Azad Sona and Akbar Ali Montoo.



**CHANDPUR**: An alternative launch terminal was placed near Jamuna ghat for safe journey of the launch passengers recently. — Star photo

**No consultant at Pabna hospital, surgery temporarily suspended**

From Our Correspondent

**PABNA, Aug 9** For want of a consultant in the department of surgery, providing treatment for emergency surgical patients in the general hospital of Pabna, has become very difficult. No surgical operation is being conducted here although surgical cases top the list of patients. All the patients here requiring surgery are being forwarded to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH). The load of the incoming patients seeking surgical operations at RMCH has increased abnormally putting unthinkable work-load upon the doctors, pharmacists, nurses.

The Civil Surgeon, Pabna, who is also the superintendent of Pabna general hospital, confirming the above mentioned news told this correspondent he has brought the matter to the notice of the Director

General of Health Services in Dhaka a number of time, but to no effect.

The consultant of surgery department, Pabna general hospital has also been suffering acutely for want of an anesthetist, an equally important post, for a long time.

**Baby killed by landslide**

From Our Correspondent

**COX'S BAZAR, Aug 9** A five-month-old baby was killed by a landslide at Eidgar village under Ramu thana this afternoon. Putul, the victim, was crushed to death by falling debris during the landslide, which also injured parents of the child.

The superintendent of the hospital, in view of the absence of an Anesthetist, became compelled to make a local arrangement under which the junior consultant of surgery of Santhia thana health complex has been asked to work five days a week in Pabna general hospital and the remaining one day in the Santhia thana health complex where he is to serve regularly since the said thana health complex is his original station of posting.

It is further learnt that the said junior consultant of surgery — Dr Shakhawat Hossain was placed under order of transfer to Cox's Bazar general hospital which has created yet another problem in providing surgical treatment both in Pabna general hospital and also in Santhia thana health complex.

**A dead river being used for fishery project in Jessore**

From Our Correspondent

**JESSORE, Aug 9** Re-excavation of 40 KM long, silted and derelict part of the river Bhairab covering area of 195 hectares from Hoibatpur to Daitala of sadar thana in the district, taken up by the Beel Baor Fisheries Development and Management Project under WFP (World Food Programme), sets a laudable example for all fisheries projects.

Split into five segments the work started from the fiscal 1992-93 with total allocation of wheat worth 5570 MT (metric tons).

area 5 km long covering 21 hectares from Rupdia bridge to Daitala point, came under segment no 5.

Re-excavation of segment no 1, was done in fiscal 1992-93 against utilization of wheat worth 1368 mt segment no 2 was completed in fiscal 1993-94 against utilization of wheat worth 1896 mt.

Segment no 3, was done in fiscal 1994-95 with utilization of wheat worth 1216 mt and segment no 4 was completed in fiscal 1995-96 against utilization of wheat worth 94 mt. The work on segment no 5

mt while the target was 17.50 mt the figure of fish production in 1993-94 was 55.25 mt against target of 48.75 mt, in fiscal 1994-95 fish production was 21 mt, while target was 86.70 mt. In last fiscal actual production achieved was 25 mt against the same target.

According to another report received from local office of the Executive Engineer, Beel Baor Fisher Development and Management Project, fish stocking in the segment area was 35,000 fingerlings while target was 70,000 in 1993-94. In 1994-95 target was 90,000

such as dewatering repairing of Patta bundh at developed portion of the river is being done by the beneficiary groups themselves to keep the water-area clean and free from any bottleneck for fish culture.

When contacted a source of the project on condition of anonymity told The Daily Star that the project for re-excavation of the derelict river Bhairab was taken up under completion of various processes including engineering study, feasibility study and hydrological study.

The source also informed that after development, the total production will be minimum 2000 mt with sale proceeds of Taka 100 lakh per year approximately. About 566 landless poor will be benefited. The source also informed that local environmental condition will largely be improved due to clearing of weeds and decomposed matter. It was also learnt from the same source that besides food production it will work as water reservoir in the re-excavation canals to help irrigation to grow more food around the river sides and do good for public health.

The 90 km long portion of the river Bhairab from Mukaddah bridge point under Patibhonia of Chowgachha thana to Daitala of sadar thana in the district is totally derelict, decomposed and silted up.

The part from Hoibatpur to Daitala is 40 km long while the rest 50 km stretches from Mukaddah to Sved Mohamadpur. Re-excavation of this river was taken up under food for work programme (FWP) assisted by WFP.

The idea that prompted the authority to take up this project included the demand for health nutrition, so aid economic development and boosting food production to meet mounting demands in internal markets. Participation of poor and marginal fishermen is development of fish production technology and thereby eke out income.

**Dacoity in Jhenidah**

From Our Correspondent

**JHENIDAH, Aug 9** A dacoity was committed in the house of one, Anup Saha at village Kabirpur in Saikupa poura area early morning of August 5, it is reported.

According to report, a gang of armed miscreants numbering five entered into the house of the victim at about 1.30 am and began to beat the house owner mercilessly. The miscreants allegedly looted a golden chain, ring and other belongings worth about Taka 10,000 and fled.

A case was filed with Saikupa thana in this connection.

It may be noted here that theft, dacoity and snatching have become regular feature in remote areas as well as poura areas of the thana during last few weeks. But police action was not satisfactory, it was alleged.



**JESSORE**: Local people working to dewater and re-excavate the silted portion of river Bhairab under segments area (above). Representatives from WFP seen talking to beneficiaries of segment area of river Bhairab (below). — Star photo

will start in current fiscal and proposal has been made to allocate wheat worth 1000 mt to re-excavate 5 kilometre covering the area of 21 hectares.  
 A total of 566 beneficiaries including poor and landless fishermen will be benefited on completion of all the five segments. The number of beneficiaries, with completion of the work of segment no 4 in last fiscal, comes to 400.  
 According to statistical report actual fish production, achieved in 1992-93, was 21

and the actual achievement was same.  
 The report also shows that harvesting in 1993-94 was 5000 fingerlings while target was 7000. In 1994-95 it was 24,000 while the target of harvesting was 23,700 fingerlings. The figure for the last fiscal was not readily available with the concerned section.  
 Reports also say that the beneficiaries are being provided training on fish culture orientation by DFO and IFO. Besides, regular maintenance



**COX'S BAZAR**: Chokoria thana police arrested 10 alleged dacoits with illegal weapons in a raid from Fultala village recently. — Star photo

**Water logging problem in low lying areas: 5000 farmers at stake**

From Our Correspondent

**JHENIDAH, Aug 9** About 5,000 farmers of Mohespur and Kaliganj thanas of the district have been deprived of 12 lakh maunds of paddy worth Taka at least 30 crore every year as water logging problems in 67 beels and baors has become a permanent problem to them, it was reported.

According to reports, there are 60 big or small beels and seven beels or baors in Kaliganj thana. The waterbodies in the beels and baors are about 40,000 acres. But the entire areas are remained under water in all seasons. As a result, the farmers can not cultivate their lands at all causing much inconveniences to them.

Talking to some affected farmers told that the matter was brought in the notice of concerned officials time and

again. But no initiative was taken so far to remove the stagnant water problems of the two thanas.

They informed that if the stagnant water is discharged to river Bhairab, Kodla or other river with a connecting canal, the problems might be solved. Further if the stagnant water is preserved through sluice gates or regulators, it might be helpful to meet the necessity of irrigation water in dry season.

Sources said it about 20 kilometres of drainage canal and re-excavation of 20 kilometres of silted river Chitra are done the problems might be solved.

The farmers urged the higher authorities to remove the stagnant water problems of the people of Mohespur and Kaliganj thanas at an early date

**New variety of paddy developed in Mymensingh**

**MYMENSINGH, Aug 9** Scientists of Bangladesh Institute of Nuclear Agriculture (BINA) achieved another success in evolving a new high yielding variety paddy, reports UNB.

The variety has been evolved through permanent change in reproduction cycle by applying Gama ray in Naizershail variety of paddy. The new variety has been named Binashail, which is an improved variety in respect of per acre yield and cultivation process.

The Binashail, a latest variety, is being cultivated as transplanted aman in the country. It is suitable for cultivation after flood. The life expectancy of Binashail is less than that of Naizershail. As a result, it can be harvested 2-4 weeks earlier than the Naizershail.

The BINA sources said the per acre production of Binashail is 20 per cent higher than its parent variety and well adapted in adverse climatic condition.



**People removing a shop from near a river bank area in a village of Tangail district recently. Huge properties were washed away by the recent flood in the district. — Star photo**