

National

News snaps

Suranjit visits Shayestaganj Bridge

SYLHET, July 15: Prime Minister's Parliament Affairs Adviser Suranjit Sen Gupta along with the local MPs on Monday visited the damaged Shayestaganj Bridge on Dhaka-Sylhet highway on the river Khawai, reports UNB.

Senior officials of the Roads and Highways department and the Water Development Board accompanied Gupta during the visit in the morning. The road communication on the highway was disrupted from Sunday.

Youngman stabbed to death

BOGRA, July 15: A youngman was stabbed to death by a group of unidentified miscreants at New Market in the town at about 9:30 on Monday night, reports UNB.

Witnesses said Masum, 20, son of Zulfiqer Ali of Matlatingar in the town, was seriously injured when the group stabbed him while he alongwith friend was passing through the market.

The victim was declared dead by the attending doctors at Mohammad Ali Hospital. Masum was reported to be an activist of local district unit of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal.

Miladunnabi programme in Mymensingh

MYMENSINGH, July 15: Islami Foundation Bangladesh and district administration Mymensingh have jointly chalked out a five-day programme from July 18 on the occasion of the holy Eid-e-Miladunnabi, reports BSS.

The five-day programme includes literacy and cultural competitions and discussions on the life and teachings of Prophet Muhammad (SM). Distinguished Islami thinkers will participate in the discussions.

200 ring-wells set up in Bandarban

BANDARBAN, July 15: Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) has set up 200 ring-wells in the district under Cluster Village Project and Rural Water Supply Project-16 during the fiscal 1996-97, reports UNB.

The department is also implementing installation of 100 tara pumps after the recent cyclone in the district under the Rehabilitation Project. During the fiscal 1995-96, only 23 ring-wells have been set up in the district amid prevailing scarcity of water in the area.

Sirajganj Police Station may collapse

SIRAJGANJ, July 15: The Sadar police station building which is over 100 years old may collapse any moment due to damage caused by incessant rain for last few days, reports UNB.

The roof is leaking continuously hampering work in the thana. The plasters of the roof are falling down every now and then. The officials on duty are busy removing stagnant water to carry on their work. The Officer-in-Charge Jabed Hasan said this dilapidated building may collapse any moment causing accident. The officers and police on duty are performing their duties amid fear of life.

Separate incidents kill 3 in Bhola

BHOLA, July 15: Three people were killed in separate incidents in the district in the last fortnight, reports UNB.

Police said two people allegedly committed suicide following family feuds and a minor girl was also crushed under the wheel of a speeding tempo. The dead were identified as rickshaw-puller Babul Hossain, 22, of Gazipur area of the town and Amna Begum, 20, of Choto Manik village of Borhanuddin thana. Police said Asma, 9, a student of class four, died on the spot being hit by the tempo near Daulatkhan. She met the tragic end of her life while the crossing the road.

Discussion on problem of drug

PATUAKHALI, July 15: A discussion on the problem of drug was held on July 8 at Amtili thana headquarters under Patuakhali district, reports BSS.

Mohammad Shah Alam, regional officer of Bangladesh Ahnsa Mission was present at the meeting as chief guest. Nurul Alam, Advocate Shahabuddin, Mizanur Rahman, Paritosh Karmakar and Hedayuzzaman, among others, discussed various aspects of the harmful effect of the use of drug. They called upon the people to make Bangladesh a drug-free society.

Discussion on Population Day

MYMENSINGH, July 15: A discussion meeting was held in the local zila parishad conference room on July 10 to mark the World Population Day, reports BSS.

Deputy Director of Family Planning Majibur Rahman presided over the discussion while Deputy Commissioner, Mymensingh, Muhammad Rafiqul Islam attended the meeting as chief guest. Among others civil surgeon Dr Akbar Ali, Prof Mahmud Hassan, Shakhabut Bakht Choudhury, Dr Mujibul Haq, Muazzem Hussain spoke on the occasion.

53 arrested from Savar

SAVAR, July 15: Police arrested a total of 53 people from different parts of the thana for their alleged involvement in various crimes including murder in the last one week, reports UNB.

A police contingent led by Officer-in-Charge Sheikh Belal Hossain arrested 37 people in separate raids from Shibalaya thana, of them, three were homeopath practitioners.

Of the arrested, 20 people were warrantees of different cases, seven accused of a snatching case and 10 accused of different smuggling cases.

One killed in rivals' clash

PABNA, July 15: One person was killed and 10 others were injured in a fierce gunfight at Bakshpur of Bharara union in Sadar thana recently, reports UNB.

Police said the gunbattle ensued at the village between two rival groups following previous enmity. Shot-hit Moktar Hossain, 25, died on way to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital. Injured Kital Mondol, 30, and Yusuf Mondol, 40, were admitted to the hospital.

Uplift schemes implemented

CHUADANGA, July 15: The Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) implemented two schemes under its rural development programme 18 in Chuadanga sadar thana during the last financial year at a total cost of Taka 2,84,26,165.00, reports BSS.

The implemented schemes are construction of a 10-mile road between Saraijani and Hizolgarhi and construction of a box-culvert over the river Chitra on Barasolia-Kalupole bazar road.

Rickshaw passenger killed in road mishap

CORILLA, July 15: A teenaged rickshaw passenger was killed in a road accident near Jafarganj Bazar in Debidwar thana on Dhaka highway on Monday, reports UNB.

Police said Motahar Hossain, 15, died on the spot when a Dhaka-bound speeding bus from Companiganj hit the rickshaw from behind in the morning. The body was sent to Comilla Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy. Police seized the bus and arrested its driver from Chandina.

Landless on rise in Noakhali

NOAKHALI, July 15: Number of landless farmers are on rise in the district due to various reasons, reports BSS.

According to a survey, number of landless farmers stood at one lakh in six thanas of the district. Farmers are losing land due to river erosion and other natural disasters. At present they became almost destitute and live a miserable life.

Farmers are being exploited by money-lenders who takes high interest from them and they are always under heavy burden of loan as they do not get proper price for their products.

2 killed in separate incidents

SIRAJGANJ, July 15: An old man and a woman died in the district in separate incidents in last two days, police said, reports UNB.

Witnesses said Refaz Fakir, 60, of village Tukrashongachha in Sadar thana was electrocuted recently when he came in contact with a live electric wire. In another incident, Rahima Khatun, 46, of village Tekani in Kazipur thana was killed by lightning.

Development works progressing fast

RANGPUR, July 15: The work on the project for development of women and children in Mithapukur thana of the district is progressing fast, reports UNB.

Ministry of Information is implementing the project with the financial assistance from UNICEF to create mass awareness among the people of the area about their life and living by the year 2000. Five mobile bioscope show, four community meetings and four cultural programmes will be held every month for making the programme a success. Besides, local leaders will be given training so that they can create consciousness among the people of their respective areas.

Hilsha rotting

BHOLA, July 15: Hundreds of hilsha fish are rotting in the coastal belt of Bhola district due to scarcity of ice, reports UNB.

According to the fishermen and fish traders, a total of 14 ice factories in Tajumuddin and Daulatkhan thanas have been closed down as the buyers boycotted purchasing of ice at higher prices.

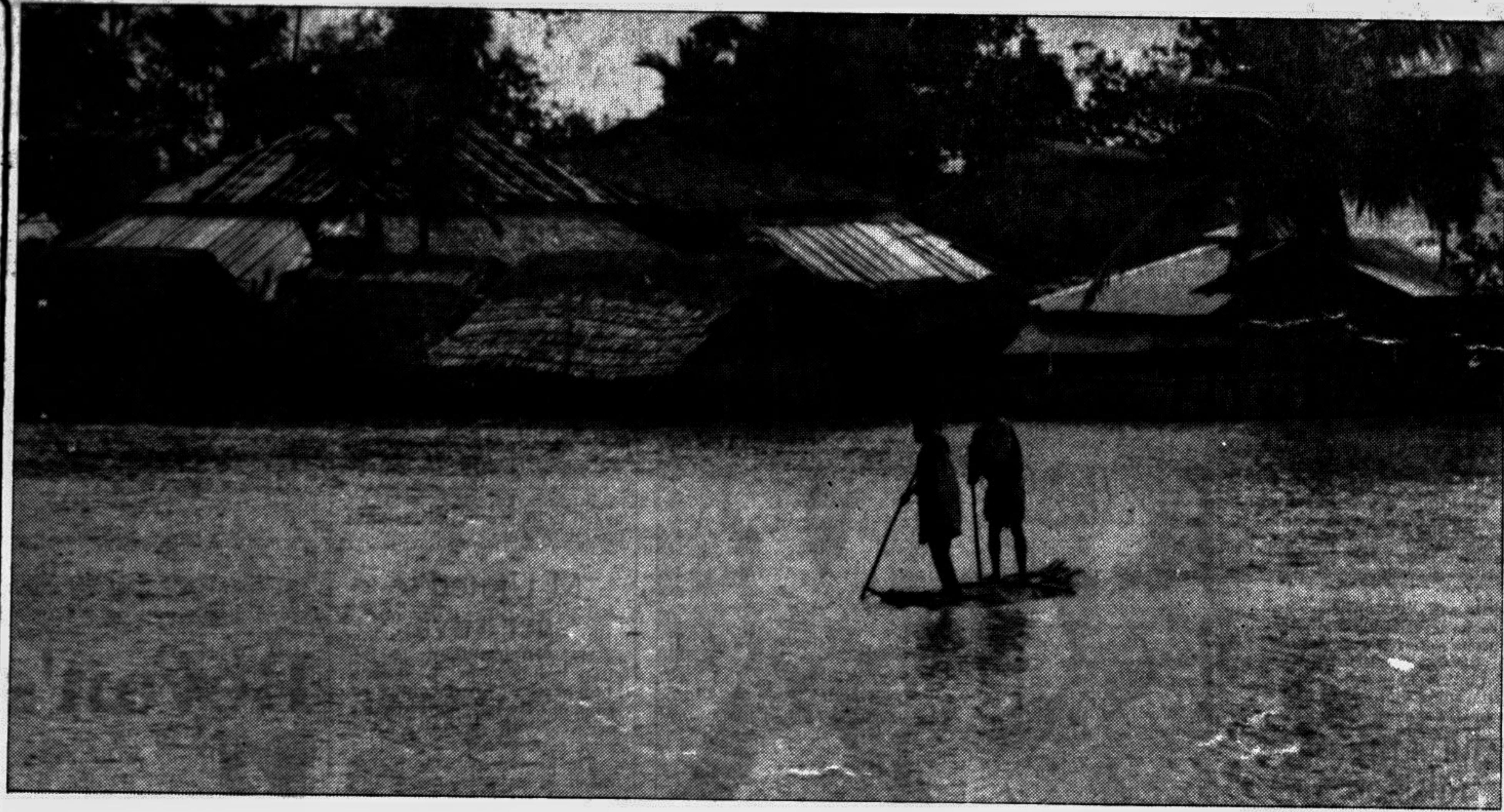
The ice factory owners have formed an organisation recently and decided to sell ice at a higher prices.

Now a can of ice is selling at Tk 120-130 as against Tk 70. The ice factory owners illegally increased the price of ice at the peak period when lot of hilsha fish are being caught.

Workshop on sugarcane cultivation

NARSINGDI, July 15: A three-day long workshop on modern methods of sugarcane cultivation was organised by Agriculture Extension Department here from June 5 to 7 for sugarcane growers of Sadar, Shibpur and Monohardi thanas, reports UNB.

Deputy Director of Agriculture Extension Department of the district M Shamsul Haq inaugurated the workshop. The experts discussed various modern methods of sugarcane cultivation to achieve optimum production.



COX'S BAZAR: The flood situation has been worsening in the district due to continuous onrush of hilly waters. The picture was taken from village Kakara under Chokoria thana in the district by our Cox's Bazar correspondent recently.

— Star photo

Hasan desires to be an Army officer

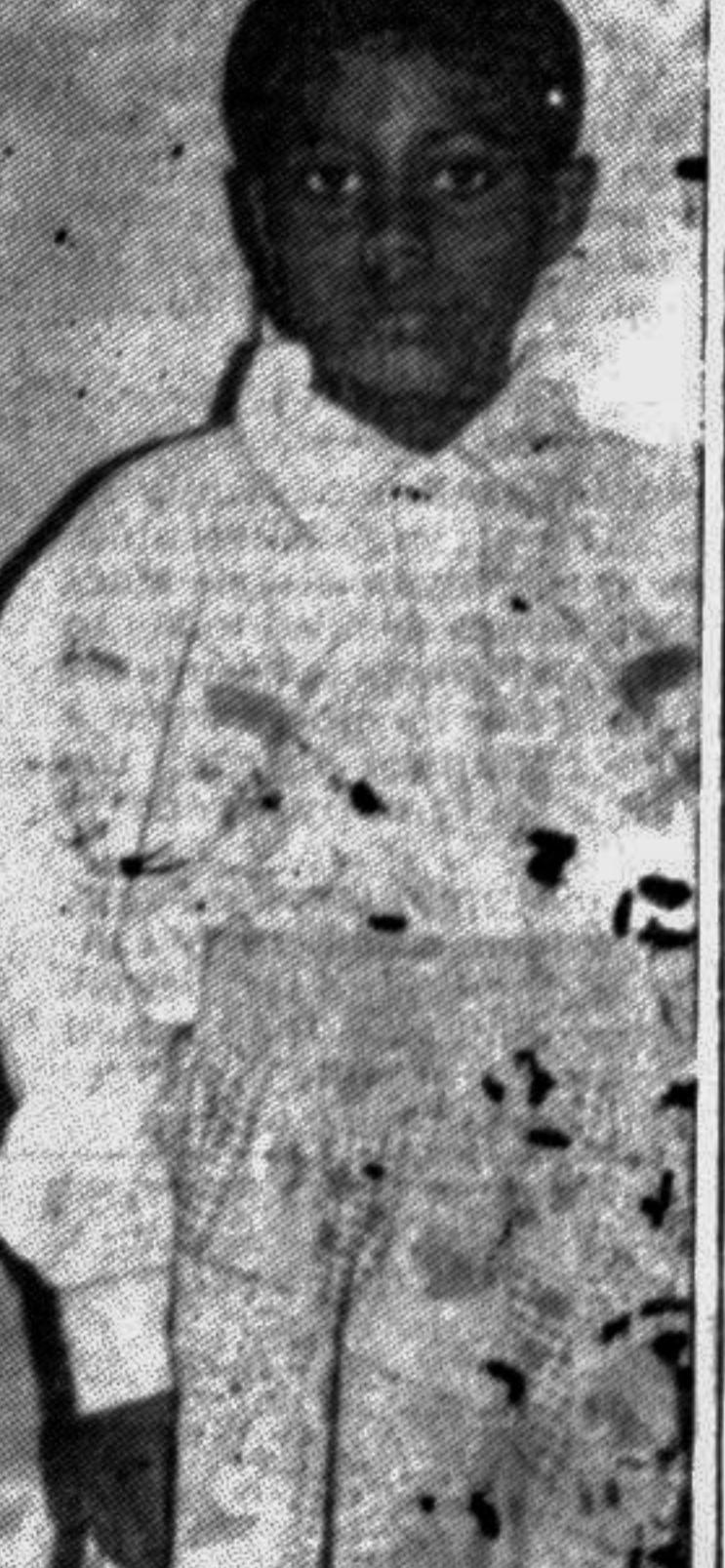
Sheikh Syeed Hasan of Jhenidah Cadet College stood 12th in the Secondary School



Certificate (SSC) examination (Science group) this year under JESSORE Board, says a press release.

He scored 911 marks with six letters.

Hasan wants to be an Army officer.



Post-cyclone rehabilitation works progressing in Cox's Bazar

From Our Correspondent

COX'S BAZAR, July 15: The post-cyclone relief and rehabilitation activities in the cyclone and tidal surge affected Cox's Bazar district are going on in full swing, according to official sources.

Reconstruction work of cyclone damaged embankments along with hydraulic control structures has been going on in full swing in the coastal areas of the district on an urgent basis. Bangladesh Water Development Board, Chittagong zone in implementing the programme.

To complete the reconstruction work an amount of Tk 12 crore and 56 lakh was sanctioned. Officials said, the reconstruction work which is progressing steadily. So far about 75 per cent works have been done. When completed it is expected that a vast tract of land will be saved from erosion during monsoon tides and from onrush of saline water. This will also help the farmers to produce paddy besides saving homesteads and shrimp projects.

Meanwhile, the government has sanctioned an amount of Taka 37 lakh under post-cyclone agricultural rehabilitation programme for cyclone-hit farmers of Cox's Bazar district. The relief goods distributed among the affected people included 470 tonnes of rice as general relief, 3,120 kilograms of chira, 33,700 pieces of sarees, 4,825 pieces of lungis, 820 nos. of tents, 112 rolls of polythene, 6,500 pieces of utensils, 3,500 pieces of old cloths, 4,195 pieces of water containers, 1,300 tins of biscuits, 4,900 pieces of ganjees, 5,500 pieces of plates, 7,000 pieces of glasses, 350 water filters, 230 pieces of water tanks, 925 pieces of hurricanes, 1,000 pieces of sausans, baby wears and ready made cloths 14,000 pieces, 347 cartons of Saudi food, 2,500 metres of cloths, 6,000 pieces of candles and one tonne of powder milk.

Besides 16 kg of rice are being given to each of the total 40,000 affected families under two pourashavas and seven thanas of the district under the programme.

Meanwhile, the government has already sanctioned 1,293 tonnes of rice under this programme. The government also distributed 11,830 bundles of CI sheets and an amount of Taka 75 as house building grants by the district administration and the Armed Forces among the cyclone victims.

According to primary assessment, the loss was estimated at Taka 35 crore and 67 lakh.

According to District Relief Office sources, relief goods including Taka 46 lakh have so far been distributed among the affected people of two pourashavas and seven thanas of the district.

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