News snaps

Workshop on checking maternal mortality BANDARBAN, Sept 15: A two-day workshop on checking maternal mortality and preserving their rights concluded here

on Wednesday, reports UNB.

Deputy Director of Health of Chittagong division while ad-dressing the concluding function as chief disclosed that an Essential Service Package programme is underway in the country to ensure healthcare and check the maternal mortality. Some 6,000 rural health centres will be set up in the remote areas under the package programme to provide medicare facilities to the people, he said. Civil Surgeon Dr Ahmed Kabir presided over the workshop while Deputy Commissioner Atikul Islam Chowdhury attend as special guest. The DC said the district has no court for trial of the accused in women repression case and such cases are being sent to Chittagor for trial much to the sufferings of the party concerned.

3 children killed in road accident

PABNA, Sept 15: Three children died and six persons were injured in two road mishaps on Friday on Nagarbari-Bogra

highway, reports BSS.

Eye witnesses said two children were killed on the spot and six persons injured when a minibus turned turtle at Sholomile. Six wounded persons were sent to Bogra Mohammad Ali Hospital for treatment. Another unidentified boy was run over by a speeding truck on the same day.

Minister reviews flood situation

KISHORGONJ, Sept 15: LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zil-lur Rahman reviewed the overall relief activities and flood situation at Kuliarchar, Bhairab, Pakundia, Bajitpur, Dighirpar, Dulalpur, Jagannathpur, Kamalpur, Moktarpur, Itna, Mitamoin. Austogram and its adjoining areas during his visit here. reports BSS.

The LGRD minister distributed the relief goods including rice, pulse, oral saline, water purifying tablets, sarees, lungies, baby garments, dry foods and biscuits and primary health care medicines among the flood victims in those areas. The minister inaugurated a programme of making ruti and distributing ten thousands ruti (bread) among the flood victims daily in different flood shelters at the worst flood affected areas under the Bhairab thana.

200 bottles of phensidyl recovered

NAOGAON, Sept 15: Police recovered 200 bottles of phensidyl and arrested two people in this connection here on Saturday night, reports UNB.

Police acting on a tip-off, raided the house of Nagen Majhi at village Gangioar in Sadar thana and recovered 200 bottles of Phensidyl from inside the two sacks. Police arrested Nagen, 60. and Ajit, 24, for possessing the contraband item. They were engaged in smuggling the phensidyl for a long time. A case was filed with the police.



RAJSHAHI: Acute scarcity of drinking water has become a serious problem in the flood affected areas. This photo under Rajshahi was taken from Ramchandrapur - Star photo City Corporation.

Workshop on adult literacy

SATKHIRA, Sept, 15: A workshop on adult literacy was held last week in Tala Thana Public Library under Satkhira district,

reports BSS.

The workshop was inaugurated by Abdul Halim, Thana Nirbahi Officer, Tala. Presided over by Mahfuzur Rahman, Thana Education Officer, the inaugural function was addressed, among others, by Statistics Officer A K Chakravarty, Headmaster of Magura Girls High School, Moinul Hossain an assistant teacher of Satkhira Government Girls High School Abul Kashem. About 100 unemployed youths both male and female participated in the workshop.

3 including one woman commit suicide

JHENIDAH, Sept 15: Three persons including one woman allegedly committed suicide in sadar and Moheshpur thana of the district recently, reports BSS.

Police sources said, Ram Proshad, 21, of village Kalechoranpur. Shamima, 18, of village Surat under sadar thana and Momen, 45, of village Shamonta under Moheshpur thana allegedly committed suicide by taking poison. Three unnatural death cases were recorded with sadar and Moheshpur police stations.

Drug-addicts handed over to police

THAKURGAON, Sept 15: The heads of five drug-addicts were shaved by a group of young people of the town. They were paraded on the streets of the town. Later, the drug-addicts were handed over to the police, reports BSS.

It was learnt that a group of young people of the town raided the houses of the drug-addicts and drug sellers of Islambag and Hallpara areas of the town recently and caught Murad, Babla, Manik, Muktar and Shahadeb and recovered 73 bottles of phensidyl, 500 gms of ganja and some heroine from their houses.

Drugs recovered

SYLHET, Sept 15: Narcotics Control Department here recovered drugs worth about Tk 10 lakh during the last eight months.

reports UNB. According to official sources, the drugs including finished hemp, hemp plants, foreign and country made wine, spirit, alcohol, phensidyl were recovered in separate drives. During the period 243 people were arrested and 240 cases were filed with the police in this connection.

Town Community Police starts functioning

SHERPUR, Sept 15: The Town Community Police has started

its functioning here from this month side by side the police for maintaining law and order in the municipal area, reports UNB.

The community policemen are performing their duties from 8 pm to 6 am every night. President of the District Chamber of Commerce Mohammad Masud Mia inaugurated the Community Police at a simple function on September 1. The community police has been introduced under the supervision of the District Chamber of Commerce and Industry with active support from the police.



PABNA: A submerged thatched house within Chatmohar Pourasabha. - Star photo



RAJSHAHI: Matikata union of Godagari thana has been inundated totally by flood water. This photograph was taken from village Ujanpur on September 11.

- Star Photo

Allotted relief too meagre for 10,05,489 flood victims of Pabna district

From Ranesh Maitra

PABNA, Sept 15: The relief materials allotted by the government for the district till Sunday is extremaly meagre for a total number of 10,05,489 persons affected by the century's worst flood in all the nine

thanas. The Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation, according the District Relief and Rehabilitation Officer, Pabna, has sanctioned 1,425 metric tons of rice. Tk 30,50,000 as GR money; saree-11,200 pieces, lungi-7,400 pieces, old garments 14 bags, biscuits-200 tins, polythin-40 rolls and plate-100 pieces.

The thana-wise distribution which has been done by the local administration also appears to be not impartial.

According to the official sources, for 1,95,015 persons from 20,323 affected families of Santhia thana, GR money of Tk 12,10,000 and 193 metric tons of rice have been allotted. For 2,43,028 persons from 21,124 affected families, only GR cash money of Tk 1,25,000 and Gr rice of 103 metric tons have been sanctioned.

Similarly, for 2,08,897 persons of 35,309 affected families of Bera thana, GR cash money of Tk 7,40,000 and GR rice of 225 metric tons have been allot-

Again, for 1,55,460 persons of 37,340 affected families of Pabna sadar thana, the local administration has so far sanctioned a total of Tk 2.30,000 only as GR cash money and 137 metric tons of rice.

In the same way, for 84,444 persons of 16,396 affected families of Faridpur thana, the total allotment made so far, stands only at Tk 1,33,000 as GR cash money and 150 metric tons of GR rice as relief.

For 98,202 persons from 16,367 affected families of Ishurdi thana, the local administration made an allotment of only Tk 1,70,000 as GR cash money and 137 metric tons of GR rice so far.

For Chatmohar thana, it is officially gathered. GR cash money of Tk 1,90,000 and 150 metric tons of GR rice have been For Atgharia thana, how-

ever, where a total of 27,235 persons from 5,957 families have been affected, the administration has allotted a total amount of Tk 71,000 as GR cash money and 60 metric tons of GR

When asked, a Food Department official total this correspondent on Saturday, they have got a reserve stock of 12,600 metric tons of rice and 2,000 metric tons of wheat in different government godowns of the district. According to him, this would cover the food requirement of about 22,00,000

JESSORE, Sept 15: About

2,000 people have been killed in

the south-western region of the

country by the activists of out-

the Editor of the Daily Runner

Saiful Alam Mukul were killed

by the miscreants during the

ment agencies said most of the

killing incidents occurred dur-

ing armed clashed between

various rival factions and rival

groups in the remote areas of

come victims of the armed

groups as they face demand for

money as subscription of the

party or ransom for the ab-

districts said they have virtu-

ally become hostage at the

hands of these outlawed parties

The Runner, a local daily.

and are facing insecurity.

People in 10 south-western

Many people have left the

JESSORE: People of all walks of life paraded the main

thoroughfares of the district town recently and demanded

punishment to the killers of Saiful Alam Mukul, Editor of

They said local people be-

Officials of the law enforce-

first eight months of this year.

years, reports UNB.

the region.

ducted men.

lawed parties during the last 10

Some 60 people including

inhabitants of Pabna district for three months.

The Executive Engineer of the Department of Public Engineering (DPHE), Pabna told The Daily Star, they have installed so far 149 new tubewells in the embankment areas where lakhs of people, affected by the devestating floods, took shelter. The number of flood shelters opened in the district stands at 107. The DPHE engineer futher informed that a total of 2,568 tubewells have also been repaired during the last two months throughout Pabna district. An unofficial source, however, told this correspondent that over 5,000 tubewells have been inundated and became unworthy of use completely.

Meanwhile, over 10,000 persons, mostly children, have been attacked with diahorrea. 2,000 persons with jaundice and 5,000 others with fever. So far, 19 persons died.

Besides, 41 more died of drowning, snake-bite and electrocution throught Pabna district during the flood season.

Another report says : Although water level started receding slowly in both the rivers - the Padma and the Brahmaputra and in all their tributaries, heavy and continuous rainfall every day and every night has put all the 22 lakhflood victims into untold miseries. In fact, their miseries are multiplying every day.

The Deputy Commissioner(DC). M Mahbubur Rahman gave a detailed official survey report to The Daily Star correspondent on the losses suffered in the district due to flood and river erosion. The survey report, however, gives the report of losses suffered till September 10.

According to the report, in Bera thana 35,301 families and 2.08.897 persons were affected. six cattles died, 30,400 houses partly destroyed, standing crops on 2,366 acreas of land completely damaged and 8,877 acres partly damaged, 11 kilometers of road was completely damaged and 22 kilometers partly destroyed, one embankment completely destroyed and five others were partly destroyed, 12 religious institutions completely damaged and 83 others partially damaged. Four flood shelters were set up where 6,450 persons were stay-

In Sujanagar thana, 20,323 families with 1,95,015 persons were affected, 13 persons and six cattles died, 3,810 houses were completely and 22,980 houses were partially damaged. standing crops on over 11,354 acres were completely and on 10,208 acres were partially de-

rural areas to live in the towns

for their safety.

Three kilometres of roads were completely damaged and 130 kilometers more were partially damaged, one bridge was completely damaged and eight bridges were partially damaged. nine religious institutions were completely damaged and 172 others were partially destroyed. A total of 60 flood shelters were opened where 49,100 persons were staying.

In Pabna Sadar thana 37,340 families with 1,55, 460 members were affected, seven persons and 210 cattles died, 67 persons were injured, 14, 670 houses were completely damaged and 31,260 houses completely damaged and 31, 260 houses were partially damaged.

Standing crops on over 29,370 acres of land were fully destroyed and on 21,830 acres of land partially damaged, 175 kilometres of road were partially damaged, 12 embankments were damaged. Eight bridges were completely damaged, while 20 bridges and culverts were partially damaged, 25 religious institutions were completely damaged and 260 others were partially destroyed. Five flood shelters were opened and 8,500 took shelter

In Faridpur thana, 16,316 families with 84,444 persons were affected, two cattles died. 3,881 houses were completely damaged and 4,406 houses were partially damaged. Standing crops on over 702 acres of land were completely destroyed and crops on 1203 acres of land were partially damaged. A total of 80 roads were partially damaged. three embankments were completely destroyed and 22 others were partly destroyed, one bridge was completely damaged and three others were partly damaged. Three religious institutions were completely destroyed and 9 others were partly distroyed.A total of 17 flood shelters were opened where 13,014 persons took shel-

In Bhangoora thana, 8,420 families with 42,100 members were affected, 37 cattles died, 1,084 houses were completely and 3,777 houses were partly damaged, standing crops on over 662 acres were completely damaged, while crops on over 2,947 acres partly damaged.A total of 98 roads were completely damaged and 110 were partially damaged, 12 embankments were partly destroyed, five bridges were completely damaged and 23 others were partly destroyed. Ten religious institutions were completely damaged and 71 others were partly damaged. Six flood shelters were opened where 637 persons took shelter.

In Ishurdi thana, 16, 367 families with 98,202 members

were affected, 4,041 cattles died, 457 houses were completely damaged and 9,752 others were partially destroyed, standing crops on over 6,202 acres were completely destroyed, 20 roads were completely damaged and 35 roads were partly damaged. one religious institutions were destroyed, nine flood-shelters were opened and 3,095 persons were given shelter. In Chatmohar thana, 20,525

families with 1, 21,100 persons were affected, 6,300 houses were completely damaged and 13,450 houses were partially destroyed, standing crops on over 9,467 acres of land were partially damaged, 25 roads were completely destroyed and 142 others were partially destroyed. Three religious institutions were destroyed completely while 120 others were partially damaged, six flood shelters were opened where 1680 persons took shelter there.

In Santhia thana, 21, 124 families and 1,73,028 persons were affected, 1,000 cattles died 150 houses were completely damaged and 8,600 others were partially damaged. 34 roads were completely damaged and 208 others were partially destroyed, eight bridges were completely damaged and 39 others were partly damaged. A total of 68 religious institutions were partly destroyed.

In Atgharia thana, 5, 975 families with 27,235 persons were affected, 1,300 houses were completely damaged and 4,685 others were partially destroyed, standing crops on over 4,735 acres were completely damaged and over 9, 025 acres were par tially damaged, 21 roads were completely damaged and 92 roads were partially damaged. two bridges and culverts were fully damaged and 31 religious institutions were partially damaged.

In total, 1,81,691 families with 10,05,489 persons were affected, 20 persons died and 67 injured, 5,302 cattles died 59.060 houses were completely damaged and 14, 228 houses were partially destroyed. Standing crops on over 57,50 acres of land were completely damaged and standing crops on over 67,857 acres of land were partially destroyed,475 roads were completely damaged and 1,196 roads were partially damaged, 4 embankments were completely damaged and 51 embankments were partially destroyed, 33 bridges were completely damaged and 101 bridges partially damaged, 62 religious institutions were completely damaged and 795 relegious institutions were partially destroyed, 107 flood centres were opened and a total number of 82,55 6 men, women and children took shelter.

In July 1995, eight villagers were slaughtered by these out-

The districts include Jessore, Khulna, Narail, Jhenidah, Magura, Kushtia, Chuadanga, armed and ideological. Meherpur, Satkhira and Bager-The sources said Biplobi

Communist Party, Purba Banglar Communist Party, Sarbohara Party, Sannashi Group and Shariful Bahini are the most active armed groups in the region.

The allegation of killing was first raised against these parties in 1970 in Jessore.

The sources said about 3,000 trained armed cadres of these groups lock themselves in serious conflicts and clashes frequently over establishing supremacy in the localities and in the name of eliminating en-There are also incidents of

armed clashes with the law enforcement agencies. After the death of legendary

leader of the underground poli-

Star photo

Outlaws kill 2,000 in 10 years in S-W region tics Abdul Hug, the leaderships have divided themselves in many groups intensifying the clashes and conflicts, both

> The sources said one Comrade Henry is now commanding the Biplobi Communist Party while Mufakkhar Ali Chowdhury is leading Purba Banglar Communist Party.

The latest incident of massacre took place at Talbari village in Kotwali thana of Jessore on October 14 last year in which six men were killed in a gun battle. Another fierce gun fight be-

tween two groups also claimed six lives in Kushtia district in June 1997.

Filing of cases against Khaleda condemned From Our Correspondent

NETRAKONA, Sep 15: Netrakona district BNP in a meeting held on Saturday morning at the Netrakona Bar Association condemned the filing of cases against BNP Chairperson Begam Khaleda Zia and other BNP leaders. The speakers said, the gov-

ernment being failed to stand by the flood victims, is now filing false cases against BNP leaders. The government is filing

false cases against Khaleda Zia to divert the public attention, the speakers said. The meeting decided to gear up the party's activities in

thana and union level of the

Kuddus, leaders of district BNP

MA Razzaque, Advocate Abdul

Latif Khan, Abu Taher

Talukder, Suja and others.

district by the next 2 months. Presided over by ex-whip and MP Advocate M A Karim, the meeting was addressed. among others, by present MP Dr Muhummad Ali, ex-MP Asrafuddin Khan, joint convenner of dist BNP Advocate Abdul

lawed parties at Kulbila village in Meherpur district.

Local people alleged that a section of powerful politicians are patronising the outlawed parties for ensuring their help during coming elections.

They urged the authorities concerned to take stern action against the outlawed parties to ensure their security of the life and property.

One killed,4 hurt in road accident From Our Correspondent

KUSHTIA Sept 15: One person was killed and 4 others were seriously injured when a Sirajganj bound bus from Khulna lost control and fell upside down at the 4th mile point of Kushtia- Ishurdi Road on Thursday noon.

The dead was identified as Habibur Rahman, 50, of Khulna. The injured are Latif, 35, Alhaz Abdus Samad, 38, Khalilur Rahman, 25, and his mother whose name could not be known. All are from Khulna. They have been admitted in Kushtia General Hospital. Police seized the bus and a case has been registered with Kushtia police station. The driver and helper are absconding.

Viral fever in Narail

NARAIL, Sept 15: Viral fever has broken out in different parts of the district particularly in the rural areas in an alarming proportion, reports UNB.

The disease is spreading fast causing concern among the people. High temperature accompanied with spasmodic pain and stifling headache are some of the symptoms of this fever, according to physicians.

Relief drives in dists

NARSINGDI, Sept 15: Different political parties and non-government voluntary organisations have been continuing their relief operations among the flood victims in Narsingdi

district, reports BSS. Bangladesh Mahila Parishad, Narsingdi unit has been distributing dry food and drinking water among the flood victims of Narsingdi Poura-

shava area. Gopinath Sangsad, Narsingdi on Thursday distributed relief goods among the dis-tressed of Hajpur union.

Chemist and Druggist Association, Narsingdi has been distributing medicines among 10,000 people who took shelter at different schools in the town. Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, Narsingdi district unit distributed relief goods among

the flood victims in six thanas of the district. Desh Seva Sangstha and Raipura-Belabo Muslim Bengal Jano Sangstha also distributed relief goods among the flood victims of Raipura and Belabo

thanas. Mauchak Maulik Chahida Karmasuchi, a national NGO distributed five tonnes dry food among the flood victims in different shelters of the district. Mauchak also distributed water purifying tablets.

Different political parties

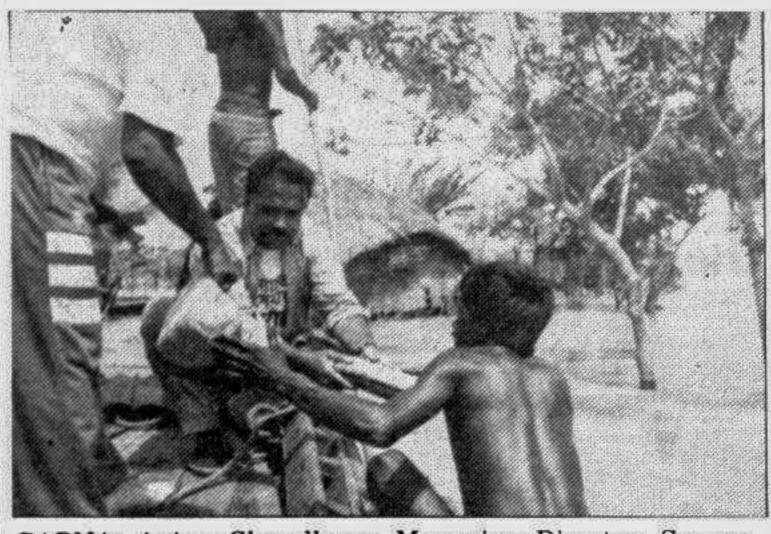
including Narsingdi district BNP city Chhatra Dal cooked food, dry food and medicines among the flood victims. Islami Chhatra Jote also distributed rice and dal among the dis-

tressed. Meanwhile, CARE will provide emergency provisions to 250,000 families in the affected districts of Sirajgoni, Gaibandha, Manikgonj and Madaripur. Initially, the families will receive a two-week food ration comprising of rice. lentils and salt, according to a press release.

CARE will set up upto 120 health and nutrition centers in the same districts from October 1, 1998. These CHAN (CARE Health and Nutrition) centers will provide cooked food to pregnant women, mothers and children under 5. They will also carry home a supplementary food ration for the rest of the family. This activity will be conducted for a period of one month. Throughout the entire period these flood affected people will have access to health services and health counseling.

The cost of implementation is being borne by USAID. The cost of medical supplies will be covered by CIDA.

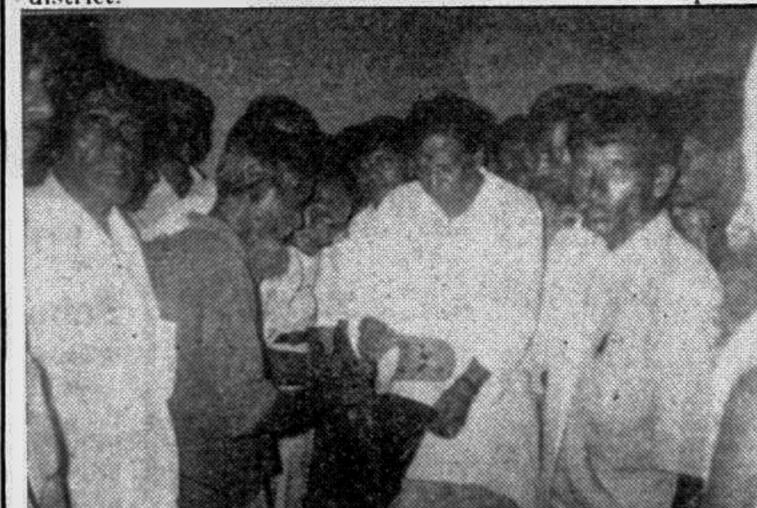
CARE has mobilised about 900 of its staff to execute the flood response activities.



PABNA: Anjan Chowdhury, Managing Director, Square Toiletries Ltd recently distributed relief materials among the flood victims of Bera thana. - Star photo



RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY: The Public Administration Department of the university recently distributed relief goods among the flood affected people of Chapainawabganj - Star photo district



BRAHMANBARIA: Advocate Abdul Latif, MP, recently distributed relief items among the flood-hit people of Borikandi union in Nabinagar thana. Star photo



SHERPUR: The Divisional Commissioner of Dhaka on Wednesday distributed relief goods among the flood-hit people of Char Pukkhimary union in the sadar thana. -Star photo



FARIDPUR: A F M Abdul Huq Chowdhury, Deputy Commissioner, Faridpur distributed relief materials recently among the flood affected people of North - Star photo Channel in the sadar thana.