Water treatment plant at Rampura opens

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman yesterday inaugurated a portable water treatment plant at Rampura in the city yesterday, reports UNB.

The German government donated two portable water treatment plants to WASA to supply pure drinking water among one lakh flood affected Fifteen German experts have

also come to Bangladesh to operate the plants.

Another plant, out of the two, will be set up at Demra in the city.

Speaking on the occasion, the LGRD Minister said Dhaka WASA has taken steps to supply pure water in the city to check spreading of water-borne dis-Zillur said the worst-ever

flood affected about 6,000 km supply lines of WASA. five deep tubewells, and pumps and electric sub-stations of 42 deep tubewells.

A Tk 12.70 crore rehabilitation programme has been taken up to recover the damage.

German Ambassador to Bangladesh Uwe Schramm, State Minister for Shipping Saber Hossain Chowdhury. LGRD Secretary A H M Abdul Hye and Executive Director of Dhaka WASA Dr Khondakar Azharul Huq were present on the occasion. In his speech, the German

envoy assured that four lakh US dollar will be provided as grant for the post-flood rehabilitation programme.

Tk 5.8 lakh donated to BNP's relief fund

Different units of BNP and organisations as well as individuals have donated over Tk 5.80 lakh and relief materials to the relief fund of BNP, reports UNB. BNP chairperson Begum

Khaleda Zia received the donations at 29 Minto Road yesterday evening, said a party press Lakiotullah on behalf of

BNP's Italy unit handed over Tk two lakh in cash, Shafi Ahmed Chowdhury Tk one lakh in cheque, JASAS Pubali Bank Tk one lakh in cash, Qatar BNP unit Tk 1.10 lakh in cheque, LK Siddigi on behalf of the Association of Engineers Bangladesh Tk 50,000 in cheque, BNP Jeddah unit Tk 10,000, Malibagh Sheba Foundation Tk 10,000 and Oxford English School Tk 2,500 to the party's relief fund. Satkhira district BNP do-

nated 125 maunds of rice, seven sacks of chira, 15,000 pieces of saree, lungi, trousers and OR Farida Rahman on behalf of

Bangladesh Women Repression Complaint Cell donated rice. ata, flour, molasses, ORS, salt and two sacks of old clothes to the BNP relief fund. Besides, Bangladesh Mukti-

joddha Smriti Sangsad handed over 10 maund rice, 10 maund chira and 500 pieces of saree BNP secretary general Abdul

Mannan Bhuiyan and Shamsuzzaman Mintu were present on the occasion.

3 killed in Rajbari road accident

RAJBARI, Sept 25: Three people were killed and two others injured when a speeding truck rammed a tempo on the Rajbari-Faridpur road near Goalundo crossing Thursday night, reports APB. Police said the mishap oc-

curred as the truck knocked down the Rajbari-bound tempo carrying passengers from Goalundo at 8:30 pm. The truck fled the scene.

Mohammad Chunnu Miah, 30, and Abdus Salam, 24, died on the spot while an unidentified man succumbed to his injuries on way to hospital. Injured Abu Bakar and

Shamim were now being treated at Rajbari and Faridpur Sadar hospitals.

Hosiery Assoc seeks support

NARAYANGANJ, Sept 25: Bangladesh Hosiery Association (BHA) has sought financial support from the government to cope with the losses of the industry suffered due to the devastating floods, reports APB.

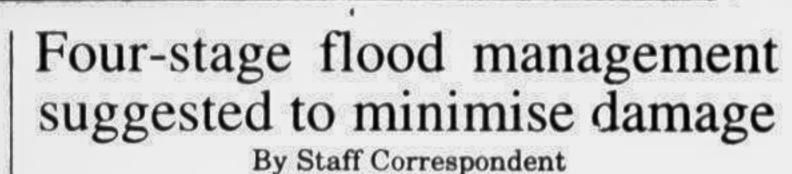
by the recent flooding, according to its preliminary survey. would be over Tk 43 crore, the press was told.

immediate sanctioning of small-scale loans of Tk one lakh to Tk five lakh on easy terms for each hosiery unit would help salvage this vital industrial sector.

They came up with the suggestions in the press conference here Thursday arranged to highlight the 'colossal damage' caused by the flood waters to the hosiery mills in Narayangani. Pabna, Bhairab and Dhaka.

Sarwar and other leaders called upon the municipal authority to take necessary steps to pump out stagnant water from Navamati area where most of the hosiery units were located.

The BHA leaders further urged the BCSIC authorities to expand the area of hosiery estate at Panchabati so that more



Renowned water expert Dr Ainun Nishat on Thursday recommended a four-stage flood management system to minimise the flood damage in Bangladesh. Dr Nishat placed his rec-

"Flood Management" organised by Rapport Bangladesh Limited in the city. His four-stage plan includes pre-flood management, management during the flood, post-

ommendations at a seminar on

flood management and the normal time activities. "First, we have to understand the nature of floods and the way they can affect us. At the second stage, we have go to for structural measures," Dr Nishat said. As to structural measures, he suggested erecting embank-

He also urged cooperation between different authorities, like Water Development Board, LGRD, and Food for Work Project, so that the existing em-

'Amra Baul' organised a cul-

tural programme in the city

in aid of flood victims

Gunfight between

police, outlaws in

Jhenidah

recovered a number of firearms

from the possession of an out-

lawed party after an hour-long

gunfight at a village in Sadar

thana early today, reports UNB.

three guns, three shutter guns.

gent of police gheraoed a place

at Ahsannagar village, where

the members of the outlawed

Purba Banglar Communist

Party were holding a meeting at

dred gunshots, the members of

the outlawed party managed to

flee the scene, leaving the arms

One killed in

Sirajganj clash

was stabbed to death and 20

others were injured when two

groups of villagers clashed over

fishing at Rajibpur in sadar

thana here on Thursday night,

Ainal Haque, 51. Police ar-

rested three people in connec-

Seriously injured Sundar Ali, 47, Shorab Ali, 28, Belal, 20

and Shafique 16, were admitted

the clash ensured when the sons

and relatives of Monjel, a vil-

lager, prevented Ainal and his

brother Sundar from fishing at

A case was filed with sadar

police. The body was sent to

Reazul secures

4th position in

Commerce group

By Staff Correspondent

College has secured fourth posi-

tion from the Commerce group

in this year's HSC examina-

tions under Dhaka Board. He

sition in the SSC examinations

under Dhaka Board in 1996.

wants to study BBA.

Reazul also secured third po-

Son of Shafi Ullah, Reazul

got 827 marks.

Reazul Kabir of Dhaka City

Police and local sources said

to Siraiganj General Hospital.

tion with the killing.

a local waterbody.

hospital for autopsy.

The dead was identified as

SIRAJGANJ, Sept 25: A man

After trading about one hun-

one revolver and 29 bullet.

l around am.

reports APB.

and ammunitions.

The seized firearms included

Acting on a tip-off, a contin-

JHENIDAH, Sept 25: Police

yesterday.

Star photo

bankment-like structures could be turned into real embankments with slight improvement.

"We have got a very good flood forecasting system in the country," Dr Nishat said, adding, that "What we have to do is to make the language of forecast more communicative as the general people very often cannot follow the forecast."

He said that all normal time activities should be done keeping in mind the possibility of disaster. For example, he said, the height of all installations in flood-prone areas should be raised.

Earlier, the seminar was inaugurated by Sharif M Afzal Hossain, president of Bangladesh Chamber of Industries. It was addressed, among others, by L K Siddiqi, A M 7 Muhith and Prof Kabir U Ahmed Managing Director of Rapport Bangladesh Ltd conducted the programme.

BNP's appeal to save malnourished children

BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan yesterday appealed to the government and overseas donors to take imme diate measures to save the lives of lakhs of children who were suffering from malnutrition in the wake of floods, reports UNB. "Hundreds of thousands of

children and infants are suffering from malnutrition. Survival of the children in the flood affected areas is threatened," he said adding "the malnourished children need food and medicare, or most of them

Addressing flood-affected people at Armanitola in the old part of the city. Bhuiyan said that millions, who had moved to the shelters, during the flooding, were facing a "grim situation" as they have lost everything due to floods.

He said the government doesn't seem aware of the gravity of the situation. "because the ruling party men are busy pilfering relief goods and politicising relief operation." Bhuiyan distributed relief

materials among the destitutes at the centre. BNP leaders Sadek Hossain Khoka, Golam Morshed, Anwarul Haq. Mohammad Mohan, Azizullah, Mainuddin Mainu and others were present.

1st in Comilla Board Kalyan wants to be a scientist

From Staff Correspondent SYLHET, Sept 25: Amita Bikram Dev (Kalyan), who stood first in the combined merit list of Science Group in the HSC examinations from Comilla Board, wants to be a Amita appeared in the ex-

ams from MC College. He secured 935 marks, alongwith letter marks in four subjects. While talking to The Daily Star, Amita said students polities is alright, but there should

be no terrorism on campus. A fan of west Indies, Amita likes cricket, reading and mu-

"I am satisfied with the result, as I expected such a good result, said Amita.

Son of Anil Dev. Principal. Sylhet Government Commercial College, and Krishnapriya Dass, Assistant Professor of Economics, MC College, Amita stood second in the SSC Examinations in 1996 from Sylhet Government pilot High School. He studied for 8 to 10 hours a day and had 3 private tutors before the examinations.

drive in city Dhaka District Rover Scout

in cooperation with Dhaka City Corporation has launched a drive to remove used polythene bags from Kotwali thana area, reports UNB.

opened at six wards of the thana to coordinate the clean up drive. Some 400 Scouts and Girls-in-Scouts from different universities and colleges are taking The Scouts are also dis-

people to make them conscious of the adverse impact of using polythene bags. The programme will be ex-

panded in other areas of the city later, said a handout yesterday.

foodgrains a day

way officials said. Over 7,500 metric tons of

every day from Chittagong and Mongla Ports and Lalmonirhat and Darshana stations to different silos and godowns across the country Two 'covered rakes' will operate from Chittagong Port ev-

station every day. A total of 57832 metric tons of imported station from September 1 to 21. according to an official esti-

imported foodgrains through the Mongla Port will be carried to different silos and godowns of the country by four covered rakes' and one 'hopper rake' every day.

be engaged to carry 1000 metric tons of foodgrains to the eastern part of the country through Lalmonirhat every day.

Railway estimate said.

Rover Scouts launch clean-up

Six sub-stations have been

tributing leaflets among the

BR gearing up to transport 7500 MT

taken up special measures to transport foodgrains across the country to meet the post-flood emergency needs, senior rail-

foodgrains will be transported

ery day in addition to a 'hopper rake' operating every alternate day to transport at least 3000 metric tons of imported foodgrains, the Railway officials Preparations have been

metric tons of imported foodgrains through the Darshana foodgrains were carried by trains through the Darshana At least 1500 metric tons of

At least 60 wagons will also

Flood waters: the death of jackfruit trees By Morshed Ali Khan, back from Tangail

Almost all the jackfruit trees have died in the flood affected areas during the prolonged flood. As the flood water receded,

in Tangail district alone, villagers were bringing in hundreds of dead jackfruit trees to the nearest saw mills. They said the prolonged floods destroyed all the jack-

fruit trees in their area. Jackfruit, rich in nutrients, is the national fruit of Bangladesh. During its harvest in summer it also serves as a staple food for many people. specially for the lower income

At Tarabari ghat under Dhanya union of the district, boats carrying jackfruit tree logs kept arriving at the local saw mill. The mill owner said that with only one machine, he was working day and night to cope with the rush. "Jackfruit trees are very shy

groups of the population.

of water, if it is submerged at the roots it can survive for fifteen days at the most, so all our jackfruit trees are dead," said a villager from Torabganj who had just sawed a huge tree into planks to make a bed. According to a horticulturist of the Department of Agri-

culture Extension in Khamarbari, jackfruit trees live up to eighty years or more. A healthy and mature tree can produce upto six hundred large fruits, he said. Officials of the Field Service Wing of the Department of Agri-

culture Extension at Khamar-

bari of the city said they were

not aware of how many of these

trees have died. One official

said it would take some time to assess the nation-wide loss of trees. The postal department is yet to resume its full services to enable us to be updated quickly," said an official. He said it was apprehended that in addition to jackfruit

trees, the flood may have also destroyed many other fruit trees vulnerable to exposure to prolonged stagnant water. "Saplings of all sorts of trees were also destroyed in the flood," the official said. The Agriculture Extension

officials however pointed out that most of the large jackfruit gardens were situated at higher places such as Savar, Madhupur, Kapashia, Gazipur, Bhaluka, Sripur, Gafargaon and the Chittagong Hill Tracts. "Flood water did not enter

most of those places so the bulk of the jackfruit production is likely to be okay," said the official adding, "The losers are those who had one or two trees in their own gardens in the flood affected areas."

One beaten to death in Bhola BHOLA, Sept 25: A man was

beaten to death by a mob for allegedly trying to steal a microphone from a mosque at Ramganj in Lalmohan thana here early Thursday, reports APB. The dead was identified as Khalegue, 40, of Charfashion

thana. He was caught by the villagers while running away with the stolen microphone, police nalised," said one official.

Minister orders use of VVIP freezer

for tetanus preservation

By Staff Correspondent The Health Minister, now being treated at Dhaka Medical College Hospital, directed the authorities to shift the freezer allotted for the VVIP room of the hospital to the emergency

department.

The only freezer at the hospital emergency has been out of order for the past four months. As a result, it has been difficult to preserve Tetanus injections for treat emergency patients.

When his attention was drawn last night, Health Minister Salauddin Yusuf regretted the situation and assured that the freezer would be shifted from his hospital room to the emergency department within half an hour.

"I have already directed the deputy director of the hospital to arrange removal of the freezer and have it placed in the emergency room," the health minister told The Daily Star.

"I don't need it in my room. It now belongs to the emergency department," he said, thanking The Daily Star for drawing his attention to the problem.

Due to non-availability of a freezer, patients arriving at the DMCH emergency had been asked to procure Tetanus vaccines on their own. Even many patients with serious cut injuries were being treated without the vaccine. The Daily Star had reported

on the problem of vaccine preservation on September 12.

Barisal Cadet College captures 13 top positions From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Sept 25: Students of Barisal Cadet College captured 13 positions in the merit list of HSC examinations under Jessore Board this year. They secured 1st, 2nd, 3rd,

6th, 7th (two), 8th, 12th (two) and 13th positions in the science group while 7th and 12th positions in Humanities group Out of 53 examinees, 13 secured positions. 39 got first division and only one passed in second division. We are very happy with the result of our students," said Prof

cipal of the Barisal Cadet Col-"We are proud of our stu dents", said Major Magsud, ad jutant of the college.

Mahabub Alam Bhuiyan, Prin-

Stock of fertiliser adequate, says. Tofail The country has adequate

stock of fertiliser to meet the additional requirement for post-flood agriculture activities, reports UNB. This was informed at a high-

level review meeting on fertiliser production, its stock supply and price situation, held at the Industries Ministry with Commerce and Industries Minister Tofail Ahmed in the chair on Thursday. The meeting was told that

the demand of urea fertilizer in the current month was 166,000 metric tons. The total stock at 28 buffer godowns and six BCIC godowns stands at 394,000 metric tons after meeting the current month's demand. It was also informed in the

meeting that the requirement for the months of October, November and December is 453,389 mt. It is expected that 310,000 metric tons of fertilisers would remain in stock after meeting the demand by the present stock and production in the next three months. Production in Chittagong

Urea Fertiliser Factory has been suspended since last July due to lack of gas supply but Petrobangla is trying to supply gas to the factory soon. Stock and supply situation would be improved if its production resumes in December, the meeting

Considering the low produc-tion against the yearly demand, the government has decided to import two lakh metric tons of fertilisers this year for January-March peak season.

Tk 86 cr required to reconstruct 8412 pry schools

About Tk 86 crore will be required to reconstruct 8,412 primary schools battered by this year's catastrophic floods in 232 affected thanas of the country, reports APB. Official sources said the

number of affected government

schools in 65 affected thanas of

Chittagong and Sylhet divi-

and non-government schools and the repair costs would rise when reports on damage survey will be available from remote areas by mid-October. They said over Tk 7.20 crore would be needed for renovating 408 primary schools in 20 thanas of Barisal division, Tk 28.64 crore for 2,719 primary

sions. Also, Tk 30 crore will go for rebuilding 3,184 schools in 75 affected thanas of Dhaka division, Tk 1.93 crore for 182 in 11 affected thanas in Khulna and Tk 18.18 crore for 1919 primary schools in 61 thanas of Raishahi division.

LGED sources told APB that the government would bear part of the rehabilitation costs while talks were on with donor agencies for the rest. "In principle they have agreed to help, but the amount of assistance is yet to be fi-

Lend a helping hand, please

Various organisations and individuals have continued their relief activities among the country's flood affected people yesterday, report agencies.

News readers of Bangladesh Betar and Bangladesh Television in cooperation with the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society distributed huge quantity of relief goods among flood affected people of Matuial area in Demra thana in Narayanganj district. The relief goods included

rice, lentil, chira, baby food, water and garments.

Cooperation for Research and Education (CORE), a welfare organisation of post-graduate medical students, began a weeklong medicare programme for the flood affected people of the city yesterday. In cooperation with Kaptan-

bazar Traders Association and the locals, the programme was inaugurated at Nawabpur Government High School shelter at 10 am. CORE members Dr Mehedi

Newaz, Dr Bulu, Tareq Mehedi, Sakhawatullah, Jahangir, Rakibul Islam, Karim, Fazle Mahmud, Akhtar. Shashanka and Ruhul Amin provided treatment among the flood victims at the shelter. The organisation also dis-

tributed huge quantity of medicines among the victims free of cost. Dhaka University Social

Welfare Alumni Association (DUSWAA) yesterday distributed emergency relief materials among the flood-hit people of Nandipara under Sabu jbagh thana of the city. They distributed relief mate-

rials including rice, pulses, potatoes and salt, among 650 distressed families of the area Besides, a medical team of DUSWAA provided medicare to the flood victims. Bangladesh Muktijoddha

Sangsad yesterday distributed 30,000 pieces of ruti, 50,000 litres of pure drinking water and water purifying tablets among the flood victims in different flood shelters, including Shahid Manu Miah High School. Ceramic Institute and Maghbazar T and T High School, in the city. Chairman of the Sangsad

principal Abdul Ahad Chowdhury, vice-chairman Sultan Uddin Ahmed Raja and Major (retd) Shah Alam Talukder. among others, took part in the relief distribution programme. The sangsad also handed over 5,000 rutis and 250 kg mo-

lasses to Bangladesh Army for

distribution among the flood

victims across the country.

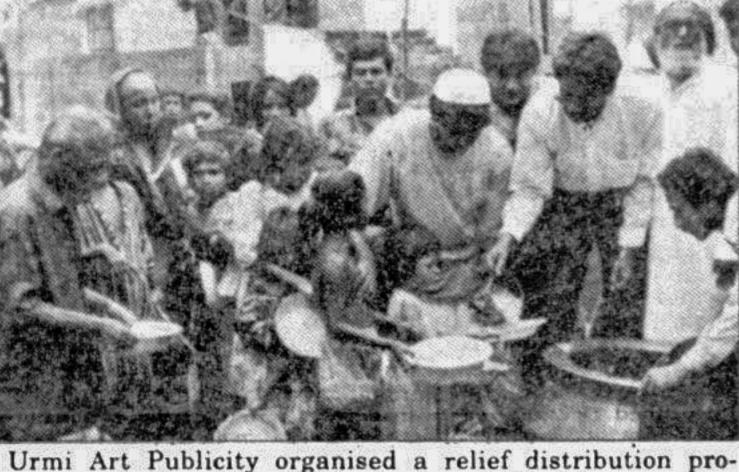
Among other organisations. City Muktijoddha Rehabilitation Multipurpose Cooperatives Samity Ltd, Sammilito Sangskritik Jote and Dhaka city unit of Bangladesh Unani Medical Association yesterday distributed relief goods and provided medicare to the flood victims.



Leaders of the Munshiganj district unit of the Awami League distributing relief materials among the flood victims of the area.



Narinda Junior Lions Club of Narinda Sutrapur thana distributed cooked food, medicines and pure drinking water among 15,000 flood affected people of Ward No 76 and its adjoining areas.



gramme in the city's Madinabagh and Mughdapara areas yesterday.



Temporary sheds are still on the roofs of many houses at Kamrangirchar as flood water is. - Star photo yet to recede fully. The picture was taken yesterday.

Oral, IV saline, water purifying tablets

Production doubles since start of floods

By Staff Correspondent

Production of oral saline, intravenous saline and waterpurifying tablets by private pharmaceutical companies has almost doubled since the beginning of the current floods. According to Bangladesh As-

sociation of Pharmaceutical Industries (BAPI), some leading pharmaceutical companies together have been manufacturing more than ten lakh bags of intravenous saline bags (IV fluid) since the start of the floods, against their usual monthly production of about five lakh A leading pharmaceutical

company is now producing about 3.5 lakh bags of IV fluid bags against its normal production of two lakh. Production of oral saline

packets and waterpurifying tablets have also increased substantially.

Three leading pharmaceutical companies have been producing over fifteen lakh packets of oral saline against half of their normal monthly production while production of waterpurifying tablets have increased at least 1.5 times more than the usual output.

Another leading pharmaceu-

tical company is producing more than four lakh waterpurifying tablets per month against the usual production of little less than two lakh. "Since start of the floods,

there has been tremendous load on us to work on double shifts," an employee working in a pharmaceutical company said. BAPI Secretary General Dr Momenul Haq when contacted

said, "The total annual demand

for IV fluid is about 2.5 crore litres in the country. With the existing production capacity. the industries can meet more than double the demand." He said, "Demand for oral saline and IV fluid has significantly increased due to the rising trend in diarrhoeal attack

along with other diseases. Sales

have naturally sorted with the demand." He also said, "There is enough stock of raw materials to cope with the demand. We are regularly monitoring the production of the essential drugs."

Meanwhile, the lone gov-

ernment IV fluid producing

plant at the Mahakhali Insti-

tute of Public Health (IPH) is

manufacturing 2,25,000 per

month.

their joining the service. The teachers discussed, among other things, extension of the service period of English teachers, post creation in different colleges, restriction on admission and ban on note books.

Separate training

academy for

English teachers

demanded

By Staff Correspondent

ers' Association (BETA) urged

the government to set up a sepa-

rate training academy for En-

glish teachers, says a press re-

call at a meeting with Educa-

tion Secretary at the latter's of-

to introduce English in the

masters level and demanded re-

vision of the planned HSC En-

glish syllabus. The syllabus is

expected to be introduced from

the next session. They suggested

inclusion of literature in the

teachers should undertake the

training programme prior to

They also proposed that the

fice Wednesday.

proposed syllabus.

The Association made the

The teachers also suggested

Bangladesh English Teach-

Prof Ahsanul Haque of the English Department of the Dhaka University led the delegation.

Tk 43 cr flood damage from govt

The extent of damage caused

The association leaders said

BHA president Alhaj Rashed

hosiery units could be set up.

Saira stands 7th

By Staff Correspondent

Saira Banu Eva has stood seventh on the combined merit list of Commerce group in the HSC examinations under Dhaka Board this year. A student of Viguarunnessa

She is the daughter of Daudkandi Awami League leader and weekly Bangla Barta' editor Mohammad Shahjahan and Nargis Akhter.

Noon School and College, Eva

secured 822 marks with letters

in two subjects.

She had also stood fourth on the combined merit list of Commerce group in the SSC examinations under Dhaka Board

By Staff Correspondent Bangladesh Railway has

made to transport some 2750

The Railway has transported some 69,000 tons of foodgrains to different places in the country from September 1 to 21 a