

News snaps

Two killed in road accident

SIRAJGANJ, Oct 28: Two people were killed and four injured when a speeding bus hit a rickshaw on the Dhaka-Bogra highway at Horgati in Rajganj thana on Tuesday, reports APB. Police said rickshaw passengers — Habibur Rahman, 60, and his nephew Belal Hossain, 40, of village Dogachi in Ullapara thana — died instantly as the Dhaka-bound bus crushed the three wheeler at about 10 am. Four other injured passengers were treated at the local health complex. The bus sped away.

Body recovered from river Muhuri

FENI, Oct 28: The body of an abducted youth was recovered from the river Muhuri at Nishchintapur village on Monday, reports UNB.

The victim was identified as Siraj, 27, son of Hazi Abul Hossain of North Kothuma village in Chagalnaiya thana. He was kidnapped by some assailants from his house on Saturday night, police said.

Meanwhile, local people yesterday caught one Jamal Uddin on suspicion and handed him over to police.

Mob gouges out eyes of dacoit

BARISAL, Oct 28: Angry people gouged out eyes of a dacoit in village Charkalekha in Muladi on Monday, reports UNB.

The victim was identified as Kalam Khan, 30, a notorious dacoit wanted by police. The villagers caught Kalam from a local bazar, beat him mercilessly and gouged out his eyes. Later, he was taken to the hospital.

Dacoity in Habiganj

HABIGANJ, Oct 28: Robbers looted more than hundred maunds of rice and valuables worth over Tk one lakh in three separate dacoities in Bahubal thana in the district recently, reports UNB.

According to police, a gang of robbers looted valuables worth over Tk one lakh from vehicles by creating barricades on Mirpur-Bahubal road near Daulatpur village. The dacoits also looted more than a hundred maunds of rice from the shops of Abdus Sattar and Jitu of Dubal bazar. In another incident, a gang of dacoits attacked some pedestrians near the Mirpur Fayeunnesa High School and snatched away cash and valuables worth over Tk 10,000. Separate cases were filed with the police.

Special Branch, Bangladesh

Rajbari, Dhaka
Re-tender

Scaled tenders are hereby invited from bonafide importers/traders/suppliers firm for purchasing 05 (five) explosive detector, 05 (five) archway metal detector for Special Branch, Bangladesh. Tender schedule can be procured till 13-11-98 on payment of Taka 750/- (seven hundred and fifty) only (non-refundable) during office hours from SB office at Malibagh. Tenders will have to be dropped into the tender box kept on the ground floor of the SB office by 12 Noon on 19-11-98. Security money at the rate of 2½% (two and a half per cent) of the total quoted cost in the form of Demand Draft/Pay Order from any scheduled bank to the undersigned will have to be deposited with each tender. Otherwise, tenders will be treated as rejected.

The undersigned reserves the power to accept or reject any tender without assigning any reason.

Kazi Zainul Abedin, Bir Pratik
Special Police Super
Special Branch, Bangladesh
Dhaka

DFP-22578-25/10/98

G-2384

Phone-9333294.



Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority

141-143, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000
Purchase and Stores Deptt, Dhaka

Re-Tender Notice

Tenders in sealed covers are invited for disposal of unuseable goods of Dredging Unit lying in lot of Khanpur Store, Narayanganj on "as is where is basis". Tender may be dropped in the tender boxes kept at the Purchase and Stores Department, BIWTA, Dhaka and Dredger-base, BIWTA, Narayanganj on 16-11-98 up to 15 hours and will (if any). Tenders must be dropped by fulfilling conditions as laid down in tender schedule available with the Accounts Department, BIWTA (9th floor), 141-143, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka/Accounts Department, Narayanganj, BIWTA, Terminal Building on payment of Taka 100/- (one hundred) only (non-refundable). Intending tenderers may physically inspect the unuseable goods earmarked for tender at the Khanpur Store, Narayanganj during office hours on any day prior to 16-11-98.

PR-96/98

DFP-22439-22/10

G-2385

Md Golam Mollah
Director (Purchase & Stores)

Directorate General Defence Purchase

Ministry of Defence
New Airport Road, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215

Tender Notice

1. Sealed tenders in foreign currency are invited from bonafide manufacturers/dealers/suppliers/indentors (Enlisted Firms and Firms applied for enlistment in DGDP) for supply of the following items for Bangladesh Navy.

| Sl No | Name of items & qty | Date of Selling From - To | Date of opening | Currency | Tender No |
|-------|---|---------------------------|-----------------|----------|-----------|
| a. | Pneumatic Riveting Gun Qty - 16-08 in Nos | | | | 5811 |
| b. | Engraving Machine Qty - 02 in Nos | | | | 5812 |
| c. | Honing Machine Qty - 04 in Nos | | | | 5813 |
| d. | Various Painting Appliances Qty - 09 L/Items | 09.11.98 | 17.12.98 | FC | 5814 |
| e. | Valve Refacer Qty - 10 in Nos | | | | 5815 |
| f. | Various Workshop Machinery/Tools Qty-05 L/Items | | | | 5816 |
| g. | Portable Liquid Level Indicator for CCO & Halon Qty - 04 Sets | | | | 5817 |
| h. | Portable Watertight Integrity Testing Equipment Qty - 04 Sets | | | | 5818 |

2. Tender schedule with detailed specifications/conditions will be available on payment as per I/T selling rate (non-refundable) during office hours between 0800 hours to 1300 hours. The tender can be dropped latest by 1000 hrs and opened at 1005 hours on the specified date of opening in the presence of tenderers (if present).
ISPR/Misc/98/849
DFP-22504-22/10
G-2386

Ltd Commander BN
for Director General

Erosion takes serious turn in Shariatpur

SHARIATPUR, Oct 28: The erosion in the rivers here have taken serious turn leaving hundreds of families homeless during the last two months, reports UNB.

The erosion has particularly increased following the recession of the flood water in the rivers including the mighty Padma.

Shoals have emerged at the middle of the Padma in Jajira thana and the river has been changing its course towards the west. A vast tract of crop land and other areas have already been devoured by the river creating much trouble for the people living beside the river.

River erosion has left about 30,000 families homeless in the district during the last few years, said local people and unofficial sources.

Sureshwar, Kanchikata, WAPDA and Chandipur areas in Naria thana, Jajira and Goshairhat thanas are the worst affected areas in the district.

A number of educational institutions, rural market places and health centres have also been devoured by the rivers.

Most of the people rendered homeless by the erosion have been compelled to live under the sky as there is no substantial initiative of the government for their rehabilitation.

Nine development projects in Jhenidah

JHENIDAH, Oct 28: Work on nine development projects has been taken up in the municipality under Asian Development Bank's Secondary Towns Infrastructure Development Project-II, reports APB.

As many as 22 municipalities of the country have been brought under the ADB's STIDP-II programme.

Sources said, Tk 1.16 crore has been allocated for the nine projects. Of them, construction of reinforced concrete girder bridge over the river Nabaganga at a cost of Tk 66.67 lakh is the most important one.

The other eight projects include repair of dilapidated roads of the town. This would involve a cost of Tk 4.58 lakh for the development of Gitanjalee Road, Tk 4.58 lakh for the Shahid Zia Road and Tk 10.01 lakh for the Siddiquea Road.

Tk 5.07 lakh would be spent for the improvement of the Power House Road, Tk 2.40 lakh for Parkpara Road, Tk 9.05 lakh for the Beparipara Road, Tk 5.78 lakh for Kanchan Nagar Road and Tk 7.92 lakh for the Selim Chowdhury Road.

Tenders have already been invited and work is expected to begin in January.

The development work of the roads will be completed by April next year, while work on the construction of the bridge will be over by December, 1999.

Fodder crisis in Netrakona

NETRAKONA, Oct 28: The farmers here have been facing acute shortage of fodder after the prolonged floods, reports UNB.

Different types of fodder including hay are in short supply as the floods had engulfed almost all the land area of the district hampering the production of standing Aus paddy.

The supply shortage of forage has caused the price-hike of hay, grass, oil cake, bran, bean and pumpkin in different rural markets across the district. Market sources said the price of 100 bundles of hay at present is Tk 100 which is too high for the poor farmers.

Many villagers said their cattle including cow, ox, bullock, goat and sheep are facing malnutrition as they cannot provide these animals with adequate fodder. The animals are also becoming prone to various diseases due to their weakness, said the farmers.

In some of the worst affected areas of the district, desperate farmers have been collecting fodder from far away places only to keep their cattle alive. But many of them who are unable to do so are now compelled to sell their cattle at a throw-away prices.

Scarcity of seeds hits boro cultivation in Mymensingh

From Our Correspondent

MYMENSINGH, Oct 28: A massive boro cultivation programme has been taken up for five districts in Greater Mymensingh region, but the scarcity of seeds has caused problem in implementing it.

A total of 5,18,180 hectares of land will be brought under boro cultivation in the five districts with a production target of 12 lakh 31 thousand and 616 metric tons of paddy, official sources said.

The five districts are Mymensingh, Jamalpur, Sherpur, Netrokona and Kishoreganj.

Of the total land, 4,61,146 hectares will be brought under high yielding variety (HYV) and 57,834 hectares under local variety. Agriculture Extension Department (AED) official sources said.

But acute scarcity of boro seeds is prevailing in Greater Mymensingh region. After the prolonged flood, many farmers have already sold or used their seeds that was saved for future. As a result, they are not able to prepare their seed beds for want of seeds. If such situation continues, boro cultivation will be hampered, some farmers said.

According to Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation (BADC) official sources, they have a stock of

231 metric tons of boro seeds for Mymensingh district that is insufficient for boro cultivation in 12 thanas of the district.

The BADC has also fixed the price of boro seeds at Tk 14 to 14.50 per kg. But for many flood-hit farmers, it would be hard to buy seeds at such price. It is also alleged that some dealers appointed by BADC are selling boro seeds in the black markets.

Also, 75,925 hectares of land will be brought under wheat cultivation in the five districts of Mymensingh region. The production target has been fixed at 1,61,692 metric tons of wheat, AED official sources said. But wheat cultivation may be hampered due to acute scarcity of seeds that is prevailing in the Greater Mymensingh region.

The cultivators are facing serious problem to collect HYV wheat seeds. Due to price-hike they could not afford to buy seeds. According to BADC official sources, government rate of per kg wheat seed is Tk 15 to 15.50.

The concerned authorities should take immediate steps to ensure supply of sufficient seeds for smooth cultivation of boro and wheat in Greater Mymensingh region.

Post-flood rehabilitation programme in Magura

MAGURA, Oct 28: The post-flood rehabilitation programme are being implemented in the district to help recover the losses incurred by the flood affected people, reports UNB.

The government has allocated 21,200 Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF) cards for the destitute families of the district. Of the total cards, 6,200 have already been distributed in Sadar Sripur, Mohammadpur and Shalikhtha thanas.

The card holders are being provided with 16 kg of food-grains including rice and wheat each month, said the officials, adding that the programme will continue up to December next.

As part of the post-flood rehabilitation programme, Public Health Engineering department will sink 95 new shallow tubewells and 43 Tara pumps and re-sink 35 deep tubewells in the district at a cost of Tk 15 lakh.

Of the new shallow tubewells, 35 will be sunk in sadar thana while 29 in Mohammadpur, 25 in Shalikhtha and six in

Sripur thanas. Some 28 Tara pumps will be sunk in Sripur thana while the rest 15 in sadar thana, said the source.

In Mohammadpur thana, 17 old shallow tubewells will be rehabilitated under the programme.

Sinking and re-sinking of these tubewells have already started under the Rural Water Supply Project, said the Executive Engineer of PHED adding that the work is expected to be completed by December next.

The official said about 2,000 families in the rural areas of the district will get supply of pure water with the completion of the rehabilitation programme of the department.

Meanwhile, various NGOs have come forward alongside the government with agriculture rehabilitation programme to help overcome the losses of the farmers in the district due to the flood.

Christian Life Bangladesh has taken up a programme of distributing seeds of various Rabi crops and vegetables among the affected farmers.

District jail at Sherpur in all shambles

SHERPUR, Oct 28: The district jail here has been facing many problems including lack of security measures due to various reasons, reports UNB.

Jail authorities said they have been facing serious problems for the erratic power supply for which the security of the prison has been seriously threatened.

Besides, a number of posts are vacant for a long time now hampering the smooth running of the prison work. The construction of the district jail was completed in 1995 on a land area of 10 acres. Though it has a capacity of only 100 prisoners, the present number of inmates is 235.

The authorities, however, said the condition of the prison is much better than that of many other jails in the country as living conditions are better here.

But recently the security problem due to the shortage of power supply and load shedding has become unbearable. The power goes off for hours together after sunset and the supply is not resumed before midnight.

A source in the jail said power is being supplied to the

jail through Sribardi-Baxiganj feeder which is the main reason for regular power disruption. The sources said the situation could have been avoided if the power had been supplied through the town feeder.

The jail authorities have informed the local officials of PDB about this problem for several times, said the source. But the problem is continuing as it has not been resolved yet.

The officials said the 18-bed jail hospital could not start functioning as there are no physicians or pharmacists here, seriously disrupting the medical services to the prisoners. Arrangements were made for doctors from Sadar Hospital to attend here on deputation, but there are allegations that their presence is not regular.

The post of Deputy Jailer at the jail has also been lying vacant for long now, hampering official work. Besides, the residential quarter of the jailer at the first floor of the jail gate is not yet constructed compelling the jailer to lodge away from the jail.

The jail authorities have urged relevant authorities to take measures to resolve their problems as early as possible.

Betel leaf growers seek govt assistance

PIROJPUR, Oct 28: Betel leaf growers of the district have been facing problems due to lack of capital and price-hike of raw materials, reports UNB.

Farmers of quality betel leaf producing areas including Matbaria, Bhandaria and sadar thanas are facing acute problems due to lack of government patronisation and non-availability of bank loan.

The devastating prolonged flood caused extensive damage to Pan Barua's rendering hundreds of people jobless. The cultivators under the compelling situation started deserting the occupation and are trying to search for other jobs to maintain their livelihood.

Farmers told UNB that nearly Tk one lakh is needed for per acre betel leaf cultivation. But, they said, it has become difficult to arrange the money in absence of bank loan facilities.

Tk 3 to 4 lakh in per acre can easily be earned if its cultivation is done in proper way, they said.

The farmers urged the authority concerned to provide them with financial assistance including marketing facilities to continue their age-old occupation.

Another message from Madaripur adds: The betel leaf plants in three thanas of the district have completely destroyed by the worst-ever flood. According to Agriculture Extension Department (AED)

sources, betel leaf worth over Tk one crore was damaged in the district.

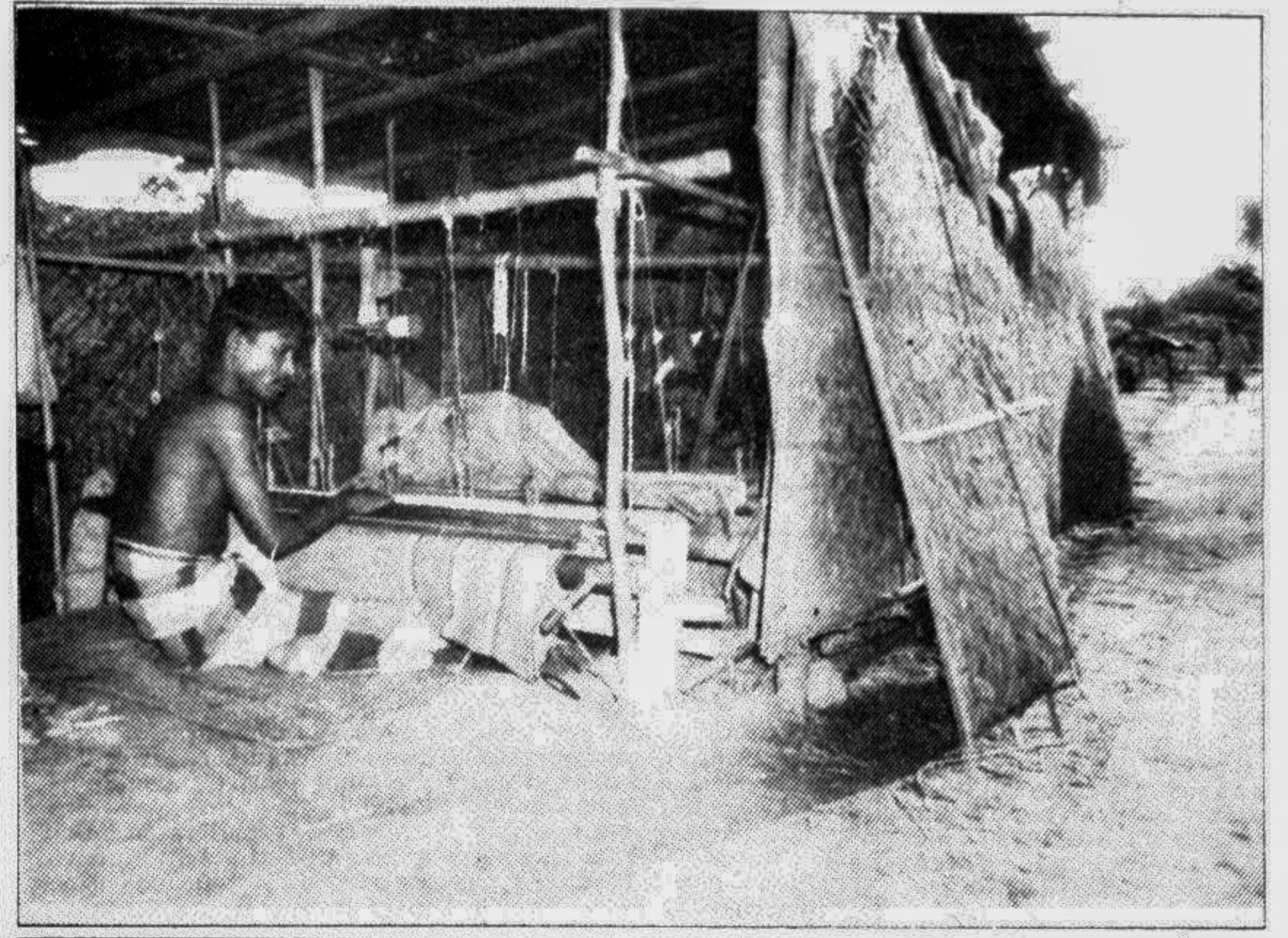
The affected thanas are Kalkini, Shibchar and Rajoir. The AED sources said, the crops worth Tk 50 lakh in Kalkini, 10 lakh in Rajoir and 40 lakh in Shibchar thanas were totally affected by the flood.

Over 15,000 affected farmers urged the government to provide them with necessary grants for their early rehabilitation.

Jessore Zila School Ex-students' Assoc executives

Prof K M Iqbal and Imamul Hasan Tuta have been elected president and general secretary respectively of the Jessore Zila School Ex-students' Association. The election took place at the first general meeting of the Association, held at the Samad Memorial Hall of Bangladesh Medical University recently, says a press release.

Other elected office-bearers are: Joint Secretaries — Kazi Wahidul Alam, Khalilur Rahman Khan and A M Amirul Kamal; Treasurer — Dr M A Jalil and Joint Treasurer — A R Masud. Besides, a four-member Advisory Committee, has also been elected with Md Nurul Gader, Omar Faruq, Hafizur Rahman and Brig Shahid Hasan.



THE UNUSUAL ONSLAUGHT: A section of the people in the Narayanganj-Narsingdi Agrani Irrigation Project at Rugganj is still paying the price for the recent flooding. (Top) A weaver works in a makeshift house on the embankment-cum-road as his house is under water. (Middle) Farmers find it difficult to resume cultivation due to stagnant floodwaters on the land. (Bottom) Although water has receded, life in the flood-ravaged houses is yet to return to normalcy. — Star photo

Irrigation being hampered in northern region

NATORE, Oct 28: Irrigation in the northern region is being hampered in the current season due to delay in repairing of the infrastructures and the flood protection embankments damaged badly by the prolonged flood, reports UNB.

BADC regional office said irrigation in 57 districts would be badly hampered if the damaged infrastructures are not repaired immediately.

According to WDB sources, the infrastructures including 227 km of embankments were damaged completely and 2,163 partially and 15 sluice gates, bridges and culverts completely, and while 798 partially.

Protection work by concrete blocks and pavement of 48 km have completely damaged while 106 km partially. Five groins were damaged partially and two closures completely and about 10 kilometres irrigation canals damaged completely while 350 kilometres partially.

Besides, nearly 375 small and large irrigation drainage and flood protection projects were damaged.

According to the preliminary estimate, the highest amount of Tk 180.23 crore will be required for the repair of the infrastructure of some 111 projects in north-western part of the country that followed by Tk 96.87 crore for 54 projects in Rajshahi zone and Tk 92.37 crore for some 38 projects in Rangpur zone.

On the other hand, Tk 27.52 crore will be required for the rehabilitation of 67 projects in the central zone while Tk 72.22 crore will be needed for some 69 projects in the southern-western part of the country and Tk 35.77 crore for 36 projects in Barisal zone, WDB sources said.

Some Tk 505 crore have been sought from the government as well as donor agencies for repairing and rehabilitation of the damaged infrastructures, it is learnt.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Secondary Education Development Project
Shikha Bhaban, 2nd Block (1st Floor)
16, Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka-1000

Memo No: SEDP/PIU/3063

Dated: 22.10.98

Notice for Appointment of Local Consulting Firm

- The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a Loan [No 1268-BAN (SF)] from the Asian Development Bank towards the cost of different components of Secondary Education Development Project (SEDP) under the Ministry of Education. A part of the proceeds will be used for which proposals are invited.
- Proposals are hereby invited in prescribed form under two-envelope system (technical and financial) from the reputed local consulting firms experienced in conducting socio-economic survey to carry out consultancy services for Benefit Monitoring and Evaluation Study in two phases (two studies) on the areas as described in the 'Terms of References' (TOR).
- Related documents for submitting the proposal may be obtained from the office of the undersigned or Senior Assistant Secretary, Development Wing, 18th Floor, Ministry of Education on cash payment of Tk 750/- (Taka seven hundred and fifty) only in favour of the Project Director, Secondary Education Development Project for each set of the documents from 05 November, 1998 to 12 November, 1998 during office hours.
- Each proposal must be accompanied by attested photocopies of trade licence, bank solvency certificate, income tax payment certificate, experience certificate and other related documents.
- The technical and financial proposals must be submitted in separately sealed envelopes under two-envelope system.
- The technical and financial proposals will be received by the undersigned or Senior Assistant Secretary, Development Wing, 18th Floor, Ministry of Education, Room No. 1801, Building No. 06, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka on or before 14 December, 1998 up to 12:00 Noon. The technical proposals will be opened at the office of the undersigned on the same day at 12:30 PM in presence of the applicants or their representatives (if any).
- The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the proposals wholly or partially without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Project Director

Secondary Education Development Project
Shikha Bhaban, 2nd Block (1st Floor)
16, Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka-1000.

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G-2388