

## News snaps

### Hasina's announcement hailed

NETRAKONA, Nov 18: Leaders of different political parties, socio-cultural organisations, professional groups and individuals have widely welcomed Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's declaration that "Awami League will no more call hartal", reports BSS.

In separate press releases issued here they congratulated the daughter of Bangabandhu and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for her historic and unprecedented announcement for the cause of national interest. Prominent, among others, of the signatories to the statements are vice-president of Netrakona district Awami League, Shamsu Ghu, general secretary of district Awami League advocate Amirul Islam, education secretary of the district Awami League Hafizur Rahman Khan, general secretary of Pourashava Awami League Habibur Rahman Ratan, president of district Chhatra League Prasanta Roy, general secretary of Netrakona Bar Council advocate Anwarul Islam, convener of Netrakona District Muktiyoddha Sanghati Parishad advocate Gulzer Hussain, former general secretary of district Sangbadik Samity Fazlul Haque Ruman and Editor of Weekly Mukti Pratik Abdul Hannan.

### Bhasani's death anniversary observed

SIRAJGANJ, Nov 18: The 22nd death anniversary of the country's popular leader Moulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani was observed at his birthplace Sayadhangara here on Tuesday in a befitting manner, reports APB.

Different socio-cultural and political organisations observed the day through holding of milad mahfil, feeding of the destitute and organising discussions on the life and works of the leader of the country's downtrodden people. The local unit of ruling Awami League, main opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), Bhasani Kendra and several socio-cultural organisations held programmes marking the day. A mild mahfil was also held at the village home of the leader of the oppressed on the day.

### Confce of BKB branch managers

MADARIPUR, Nov 18: A conference of the branch managers and the field workers of Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKB) district branch was held at Madaripur Legal Aid Training Centre recently, reports BSS.

Managing Director of BKB Barisal division Md Nurul Islam was present as the chief guest at the conference which was presided over by regional manager of BKB Madaripur zone Md Nasiruddin Talukder. The conference, after discussing the post-flood situation, decided to disburse Tk 16 crore 93 lakh as loan among the flood affected farmers through 13 branches of BKB in four thanas of the district.

### Fodder distributed

RAJBARI, Nov 18: The District Administration, under its post-flood rehabilitation programme, has started distributing fodder among the farmers alongside the VGF cards to recoup their losses caused by the recent devastating flood, reports UNB.

Local MP Kazi Keramat Ali recently inaugurated the programme through distributing fodder, including rice and wheat husk, among over 5,000 cattle owners at Ujanchar union in Goalunda thana. Official sources said, fodder at a cost of Tk 3.60 lakh will be supplied among 30 cattle owners as relief in the first phase. Besides, medicines and vaccines will be given through 17 veterinary centres to check the diseases.

### VGF cards distributed

NARSINGDI, Nov 18: The district relief and rehabilitation department distributed 75,100 VGF (Vulnerable Group Feeding) cards among the destitute families in Narsingdi district, reports BSS.

Of the total cards, 14,000 were distributed in Sadar thana, 24,000 cards in Raipura, 11,000 cards in Monohardi thana, 7,000 cards in Belabo thana, 9,000 cards in Shibpur thana and 5,000 cards in Polash thana. Some 5,100 VGF cards have been distributed in Narsingdi pourashava and Madhabdi pourashava. Each VGF card holder will get eight kilos of rice and eight kilos of wheat every month.

### Relief received from PM's Fund

COMILLA, Nov 18: A total of 1,81,700 VGF cards have been distributed in 179 unions and five pourashavas of the district recently, reports BSS.

The district relief and rehabilitation department sources said, the district administration received Taka 18 lakh from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund for repair and reconstruction of houses damaged by the recent flood. The amount will be distributed among 36,000 flood affected families in 12 thanas and five pourashavas of Comilla district.

### Sanction for schools' development

FENI, Nov 18: About Taka two crore five lakh has been sanctioned for the development of 13 non-government high schools in the district, reports BSS.

Facilities Department under Education Ministry will execute the projects. The projects include construction of one one-storey building and four rooms in each of the 13 high schools. After completion of the projects within this financial year, the education facilities in these schools will be increased.

### Rabi crops farming programme

KISHOREGANJ, Nov 18: A total of 5,100 hectares have been brought under winter vegetables cultivation in 13 thanas of the district in the current Rabi season, reports BSS.

According to Agriculture Extension Directorate source, thana-wise break-up of land is: 600 hectares in Hossainpur, 600 hectares in Sadar thana, 700 hectares in Pakundia, 600 hectares in Katadi, 350 hectares in Karimganj, 450 hectares in Tarail, 100 hectares in Itna, 50 hectares in Mithamoin, 100 hectares in Nikli, 400 hectares in Astagram, 400 hectares in Bajitpur, 400 hectares in Kulliarchar and 350 hectares in Bhairab. The production target has been fixed at 76,500 tonnes.

### Winter crops on 10,000 hectares

GAZIPUR, Nov 18: About 10,000 hectares will be brought under various 'Rabi' crops cultivation in Gazipur district in the current season, reports BSS.

According to Agriculture Extension Department (AED) sources, 248 hectares of land will be brought under mustard cultivation, 412 hectares under pulse, 2160 hectares under winter vegetables and 1317 hectares under potato, chili and onion.

### Two die of rabies

TANGAIL, Nov 18: An eight-year-old girl of village Nagarzalpal in Tangail municipal area died of rabies on Saturday, her family sources said, reports BSS.

The victim Rumi, daughter of Afazuddin, was bitten by a mad dog. A few days ago her cousin Afzal, 17, died of hydrophobia. He was also bitten by the same dog. The incidents created panic in the area.

### School dropouts on rise

KISHOREGANJ, Nov 18: Dropout in the primary school here is increasing alarmingly due to non-implementation of Food For Education Programme affecting nearly 45,000 children of poor families for the last four months, reports UNB.

As a result, most of the 22,436 poor families are facing problems in sending their wards to school, rather they are preferring odd jobs for them to eke out their living, said local Primary Education Department sources. Of the 1,15,878 students of 216 government and 121 non-government primary schools in 13 thanas, 44,874 students, most of whom are very poor, were included in the project.

Government introduced the scheme to provide 15 kgs of rice/wheat to each single child family and 20 kgs to more than a child family per month to facilitate their education, it said.

### Kirtinasha virtually a dead river

SHARIATPUR, Nov 18: Kirtinasha, once a turbulent river, has now silted up to become a convenient route for surface communication, reports UNB.

Automobiles started moving on the river bed from November 3. With the huge accumulation of silts over the last few decades, chars have emerged in some parts of the river. Some 20 kilometres stress of the river from Kazirhat of Zajira thana of the district to Maowa ferry ghat has become makeshift road. People are using the road conveniently. Besides, vehicles can also ply from Kazirhat to Laukhola and Ganganagar bazar through the route.

### Blood Donation Day observed

HABIGANJ, Nov 18: National Voluntary Blood Donation and Postthrombotic Eye Donation Day '98 was observed here recently in a befitting manner, reports BSS.

District health department arranged elaborate programmes which included discussion meeting, voluntary blood donation and press-conference on the occasion. A discussion-meeting, presided over by Dr Shafigue Uddin, Civil Surgeon was held at sadar hospital. Shahid Chowdhury, Chairman Habiganj Pourashava attended the meeting as the chief guest, while Shafigur Rahman Chowdhury president Habiganj Press Club and Dr Wali Mahmood Akhan, deputy civil surgeon were present as the special guests. The meeting was addressed, among others, by Dr Shuchinta Chowdhury, Dr Md Abdullah, Dr Anwar Hossain Khan, Dr Nazrul Islam, Md Mufazzal Haque, Area manager BRAC, Syeda Rawshan Ara, secretary Prayas Samay Kalyan Sangstha, Abdul Quadir, Thana Health Education Officer.

# Erosion takes serious turn in Chandpur, Manikganj

From Our Correspondent

CHANDPUR, Nov 18: Erosion of the river Meghna is continuing within 10 kilometres area along the river bank from Katakhal to Char Bhairabi in Haimchar thana of the district.

As a result the embankment of Chandpur Irrigation Project, one of the biggest irrigation project of Bangladesh is threatened.

According to Bangladesh Water Development Board, Chandpur office, the erosion of the river Meghna in the western side is continuing alarmingly. The protection embankment made by dumping bricks and sandbags in Taskerkhand area has already been eroded.

The badly affected areas are West Krishnapur, Lamchhari, Haimchar, Nilkamal, Hanarchar and Ibrahimpur unions of Haimchar thana.

The currents and waves of the river Meghna have intensified the erosion due to frequent rainfall. In Taskerkhand area Meghna now stands in between 50 to 60 feet near the embankment of Chandpur Irrigation Project. If the erosion continues at the present pace, the embankment of Chandpur Irrigation Project will be eroded at any time.

So far about 2,000 hectares of agricultural land have already been eroded in one month. Chandpur Irrigation Project was constructed in 1978 at a cost of Taka 100 crore. The

project area covers one lakh seventy five thousand hectares of land within Chandpur, Haimchar, Faridganj thanas of the district and Raipur, Ramganj of Laximpur district. About six lakh people are benefited by the project. The project area is encircled by 64 miles long embankment.

A correspondent from Manikganj says: About 65,000 families of Daulatpur, Shibhalaya and Harirampur thanas of the district have become homeless due to continued erosion of the rivers Padma and Jumana. The erosion affected people are now living a sub-human life.

Nearly 105 square kilometre area out of a total of 245 kilometre area of Harirampur thana have already been devoured by the river Padma.

Mozibur Rahman, Thana Nirbahi Officer (TNO) of Harirampur thana told this correspondent, at least 30 villages, 26 educational institutions and 30,000 acres of croplands of nine unions have been lost into the riverbed of the Padma during the last 13 years due to continued erosion.

The existence of Azimpur, Dulshara, Sutalori, Lasaganj and Harukandi unions is now at stake. The erosion has affected the villages of Ramkinnapur, Hourdangi, Vatipara, Vatikandi, Uzankandi, Ba-

hadurpur, Gopinathpur, Mazipara, Kazikanda, Ametpur, Sutalori, Machain, Coutkandi, Kanchandpur, Azimnagar, Charkmokondi, Katakhal and Boara in Harirampur thana. On the other hand, many shoals have emerged at various places. The mid-river have become dry. The main stream has been flowing at a tremendous speed close to the banks of nine unions of the thana.

According to TNO of Daulatpur thana, 43 villages, two colleges, 32 school and about 16,000 acres of cropland in five unions of the thana have been devoured by the Jamuna river. A huge areas of the western region of Daulatpur thana has been lost in the Jamuna river due to erosion.

An alarming situation has been prevailing in Zionpur, Lautara, Amtoly, Gobinaipur, Kallampur, Purnanpara, Islampur, Varta and Bagdipura. The villages are now virtually on the verge of extinction. Char Alakdia, Char Laigolla, Char Islampur and Char Kallampur are widely affected. The existence of Bachamara, Char Katary and Bagutia unions is now in paper only. From Charkatary union in the north to the entire areas of Zafaganj in the south of Daulatpur are hit hard by the Jamuna erosion. Dense human habitations are being washed away within a short period.

A total of 16 villages and 10 schools were eroded in Shibhalaya thana. Meanwhile, Aricha port has been threatened by the erosion of the river Jamuna. A greater portion of villages Nihalpur, Zafaganj, Tauta, Hamganj, Abakdia, Goshpara, Trishari, Kamlapur and Rahatpur are badly effected by the river Jamuna.

Water Development Board sources told that about 37 hats and bazaars had been eroded in Harirampur, Shibhalaya and Daulatpur thana areas. Century-old human habitations were also eroded away by the Padma and Jamuna rivers.

Most of the people who have lost their homesteads. They are now floating population in towns and cities including capital Dhaka and Manikganj town. Most of them are compelled to work as day labourers, but in the dry season they do not even get any opportunity for work. They are now begging from door-to-door. Sometimes they stay in the embankment of Bangladesh Water Development Board. Sometimes they live under the open sky.

Many of these helpless people have become rickshaw-pullers and porters at Aricha ferry ghat and bus station there.

Out of the shelterless families, only 500 have so far been rehabilitated by government and non-government organisations, it was learnt.



PABNA: Rezia Islam of Khagrabaria in Faridpur thana has cultivated "Barbati" on her land which is now a demonstration plot. — Star photo

## Decrepit buses plying in Chatmohar-Pabna route

ISWARDI, Nov 18: Decrepit buses that are considered unfit have been plying along Chatmohar-Bhangura-Pabna route for quite a long time, reports APB.

According to sources, these buses hardly have proper seats for passengers nor do they have route-permits.

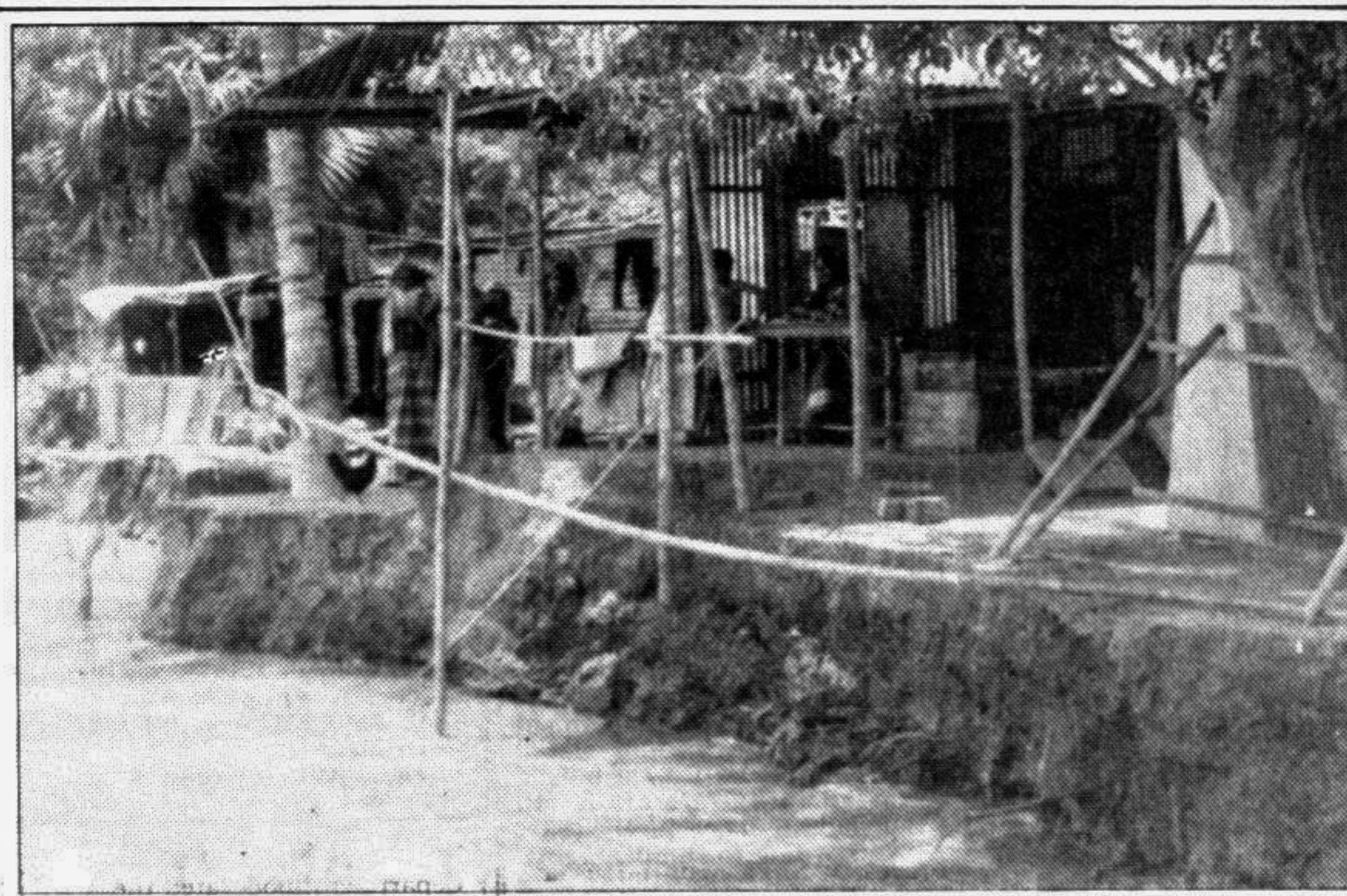
The buses are quite unfit for carrying passengers and plying the routes, often meeting with accidents. The concerned authorities, however, are tightlipped about all these.

Some 70 such buses ply along the route regularly. A few of them are minibuses and the rest old and discarded jeeps or pick-up vans.

Owners of these transports purchased them in auctions and set wooden seats within. These buses do not even have proper doors, as a result of which passengers have to manoeuvre a great deal to get on board or to alight from them.

These vehicles move at a very slow speed and use poor quality mobil and low-grade diesel as fuel. These modes of transport, as a result, emit noxious black smoke, polluting the environment as well.

Besides, the drivers and conductors of these buses allegedly misbehave with the passengers. These buses also stop at different places, caring little whether there is a bus-stop or not, passengers said.



MANIKGANJ: The river Padma has devoured a vast tract of land at village Harukandiboira in Harirampur thana. — Star photo

## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Project Director  
Northwest Fisheries Extension Project (2nd phase)  
Parbatipur, Dinajpur

### Employment Notice

Memo No: 4034

Dated: 8/11/98

Northwest Fisheries Extension Project 2nd Phase (funded by Government of Bangladesh and DFID) invites application from Bangladeshi nationals on contract basis with relevant qualification and conditionalities of the vacant positions mentioned below. Applications should reach the office of the undersigned within 20 days of publication of this notice. Applicants who are already in service should apply through proper channels.

The advertised positions will be funded by DFID. Application should be accompanied with 2 copies recent photographs attested by gazetted officer, attested photocopies of educational certificates, nationality certificate and experience certificate.

Sl No	Post & pay scale	Educational qualifications, experience & age
1.	Sociologist-1 Tk 12,000-16,000/-	At least 2nd class post graduation in Social Science should have at least 3 years practical experience in related field. Age limit below 35 years.
2.	Extension Officer-1 Tk 12,000-16,000/-	At least Fisheries Graduation or Zoology/Biology post graduation in 2nd class. Should have at least 3 years practical experience in fisheries extension training. Age limit below 35 years.

Applicants who fail to submit in compliance with stated terms, conditions and requirements of this notice, will be considered ineligible for the position applied for.

E. K Habib  
Project Director.

## Dhaka WASA Tender Notice

পানির অপচয় বন্ধ করুন  
মানবহেলের ঢাকনা চুরি রোধ করুন।

Tenders are invited for enlisted class I, II, III supplier contractors/bonafide suppliers/manufacturers of Dhaka WASA for supply of 200 mm (8") diameter MS (ERW) pipe for use in interim project 4 at a cost of Tk 4,66,200/-.

Tenders will be received till 30.11.98 at 12 Noon and will be opened on the same day at 2 PM in presence of tenderers or their representatives (if anyone remains present).

Tender schedule will be available at the office of the Chief Accounts Officer, WASA Bhaban, 98, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka and all the MODS Zone offices of Dhaka WASA. Other detailed description will be available in the office of the undersigned.

Address: WASA Bhaban  
98, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka  
WASA-PI-309/98  
DFP-24024-15/11  
G-2581

A K M Zafurullah  
Project Director  
Interim Project-4  
Dhaka WASA

## Bangladesh Jute Research Institute

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Manik Mia Avenue, Dhaka-1207

### Urgent Tender Notice

Sealed tenders are invited from bonafide producer/supplier firms for supply of fabrics for making summer uniforms for class III/class IV employees of the Bangladesh Jute Research Institute. Tenders will have to be submitted into the tender box kept at the office of the undersigned till 12-00 Noon on 30.11.98 and will be opened on the same day at 12-15 PM before the tenderer willing to be present (if anyone remains present).

Any concerned tenderer can participate in tender by taking permission in written by applying and on payment of the cost of the each set of schedule of Taka 50/- (fifty) in cash (non-refundable).

The authority reserves the power to accept/reject any tender or reject all tenders without assigning any reason. No tender schedule will be sold on the day of opening tender.

DFP-23958-15/11/98 Additional Director (Admn & Finance)  
G-2582 Bangladesh Jute Research Institute.

## Newly married Army personnel beaten to death in Pabna

From Our Correspondent

PABNA, Nov 18: A newly married Army personnel named Mukhter Hossain Imran, 27, was brutally murdered on Sunday night at his village home in Nagdaha under Atgharia thana of the district.

He was beaten mercilessly first and then acid was thrown on his body. He was serving at Kaptai Army camp.

Police recovered the charred body the same night and arrested four accused persons.

Son of Muhammad Sona Miah of village Nagdaha, Mukhter Hossain came to his village home on November 3. The next day he married a girl of Ramchandrapur in the Sadar thana.

## JCD observes hartal at Sylhet: 3 held

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, Nov 18: Three pickets were arrested during the seven-hour hartal in the town on Tuesday.

The hartal was called by the district unit of Jatityabadi Chhatra Dal to press for 7-point demand.

The demands include, withdrawal of 'false' cases against the JCD activists during the 60-hour hartal, release of the arrested JCD activists and immediate arrest of ruling party backed BCL activists responsible for the 'planned' attack on the peaceful procession of JCD during the last week's hartal.

About 50 persons were injured, 35 with bullets in the armed clashes between the activists of BCL and JCD during the 60-hour hartal across the country.

Today's hartal was almost peaceful. Attendance in offices was almost thin while the business establishments and educational institutions remained closed.

## Five of a family die after eating potka fish

COX'S BAZAR, Nov 18: At least five members of a family died and four others fell sick on Monday by eating poisonous potka fish at Senpara under Kutubdia island here, reports BSS.

Police said all the victims became seriously ill just after eating the fish. They were rushed to the Kutubdia thana health complex where the attending doctor declared five of them dead.

## Notice Inviting Tender of RHD

Tenders are hereby invited in Bangladesh Form No 2911 in sealed cover.

Group No	Name of work	Charge to	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Cost of sch in/c Form No 2911	Time allowed	Eligibility of contractor
1 (one)	Temporary restoration of flood damaged bituminous pavement at 17th(P), 18th(P), 19th (P), 20th (P), 21st (P), 22nd (P) & 23rd (P) KM of Bhuapur-Tarakandi road under Jamalpur Road Division during the year 1998-99.	Deposit works	Tk 2,46,547/-	Tk 4,935/-	Tk 520/-	12 (twelve) days	'A' to 'E' class general category contractor of RHD
2 (two)	Temporary restoration of flood damaged bituminous pavement at 22nd (P), 23rd (P), 25th (P) & 26th (P) KM of Bhuapur-Tarakandi road under Jamalpur Road Division during the year 1998-99.	-do-	Tk 5,01,572/-	Tk 10,035/-	Tk 520/-	12 (twelve) days	-do-
3 (three)	-do- at 23rd (P), 24th (P) & 25th (P) KM of Bhuapur-Tarakandi road under Jamalpur Road Division during the year 1998-99.	-do-	Tk 3,47,690/-	Tk 6,955/-	Tk 520/-	12 (twelve) days	-do-

NB: i) Tender for group nos 1 & 3 against this notice will not be received by the Superintending Engineer, RHD, Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation Circle, Dhaka Zone, Dhaka/Monitoring & Evaluation (Roads & Bridges) Circle, Dhaka/Dhaka Road Circle, Dhaka.

ii) Tender for group nos 1 & 3 against this notice will not be sold Executive Engineer, RHD, Planning Division (Roads & Bridges), Dhaka/Planning & Design Division, Dhaka Zone, Dhaka/Dhaka Road Division, Banani, Dhaka/Procurement (Civil) Division, Dhaka.

iii) All tenders will be opened at a time in the office of the Executive Engineer, RHD Jamalpur Road Division, Jamalpur on the due date & time fixed for opening after collections all tenders (if any) from all tender receiving office in sealed condition.

Gour Chandra Shaha  
Executive Engineer, RHD  
(Current Charge)  
Jamalpur Road Division  
Jamalpur.

DFP-23936-15/11  
G-2580