

Erosion takes serious turn in dists

By Staff Correspondent

Erosion by the rivers Padma, Jamuna, Mohananda, has taken a devastating turn in Chapai Nawabganj, Manikganj and Sariakati districts.

Our Chapai Nawabganj correspondent reports: Erosion by the rivers Padma and Mohananda has taken a serious turn due to fall in water level of the rivers.

It has caused havoc in two thanas. Director of the river has also attributed to such erosion.

Uzirpur, Panka UP of Shipganj and Narayanpur, Sundarpur, Char Bagdanga, Anupnagar and Alataly UP of Nawabganj Sadar are situated on the bank of the Padma and the Mohananda. Erosion is a common phenomenon in these areas, but no step has been taken so far to check the erosion.

During the last two years thousands of families have already become homeless by such erosion. Seriously effected areas are Uzirpur, Panka, Nabupat, Babupur, Radhakantapur, Zandipur, Narayanpur, Surja Narayanpur, Zoharpur, Anupnagar and Tiklichar villages of the two thanas.

This year erosion by the two rivers has rendered thousands of families homeless. Many mosques, schools, madrasahs, college and mango gardens, bamboo gardens have gone under water.

The Padma has also been eroding the Bangladesh side, because the Indian side has been shifted by the boulder stone. The river has been shifting into Bangladesh territory. The Padma and the Mohananda have been devouring fresh areas of the two thanas.

UNB from Manikganj reports: Despite fall of water level in rivers Padma and Jamuna, erosion by the two mighty rivers is continuing, devouring villages on their vicinities.

Witnesses said a vast track of cropland, dwelling houses, mosques, roads, bridges and

culverts in Harirampur and Daulatpur thanas disappeared into the two rivers.

During the last three months, 16 villages of nine unions in the two thanas were partially eroded away and may completely be devoured by the rivers at anytime.

The erosion-affected nine unions are Boira, Harikandi, Ramkrishnapur, Dhulsura, Azimgar in Harirampur thana and Bachamara, Baghutia, Charkatari and Jionpur in Daulatpur thana.

Besides, 50 tube-wells, seven bridges, 30 culverts, 10 primary schools, 17 hats and bazars, 12 mosques and madrasahs, over 100 rural roads and 500 acres of arable land went into the gorges

of the two rivers, leaving over 8,000 people homeless.

They have taken shelter on roads and dams or in their relatives' houses. Most of them are passing their days in misery.

Another report from Sariakati says: Erosion by River Padma has taken a devastating turn in two thanas, displacing some 1,000 families in last two months.

The worst affected areas are Sureswar Chondipur and Wapda in Narinda thana, where nearly 600 dwelling houses went into gorge of the mighty river.

The Padma has so far devoured Chondipur, Chondipur Bazar, Chandipur launch ghat, Sureswar Bazar, part of the 200-year-old Wapda

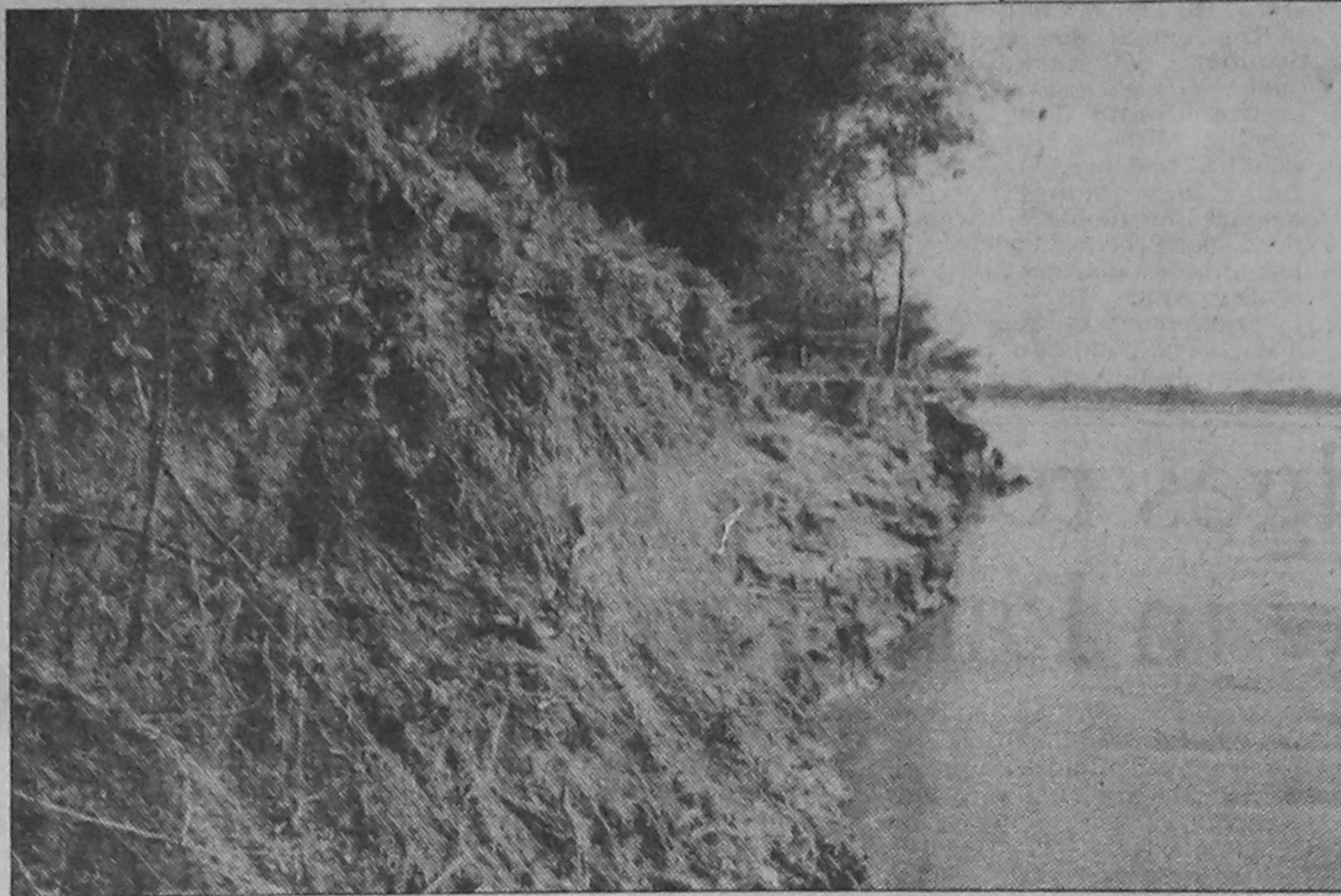
launch-ghat and Chondipur-Sureswar road.

Erosion by the turbulent Padma generally takes place twice a year during monsoon and recession of water in dry season. But this dry season's erosion is more furious than previous years, locals said.

Losing their homesteads, many erosion victims are now passing their days under the open sky.

Meanwhile, waterborne diseases like diarrhoea, dysentery, jaundice and other diseases have broken out in the affected areas.

Doctors attribute the outbreak of the diseases to consumption of unwholesome foods and pure drinking water.



The River Teesta has devoured most portion of village Kitabkhan under Rajarhat thana in Kurigram district.

Two Khulna JCD leaders arrested

From Staff Correspondent
KHULNA, Dec 30: Rupsha thana police arrested two leaders of the district unit of BNP-backed Jatityabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) on Sunday evening.

The arrested JCD leaders were Abu Hossain Dhali Babu and Golam Faruque. Police arrested them without any warrant while they were going to attend an iftar party at Terokhedha thana. When asked, the police super said that they had been arrested by order of higher authorities.

Local BNP and JCD demanded their unconditional release.

Fortunate fisherman

SHARIATPUR, Jan 30: A catch has brought fortune for a poor fisherman of Palang thana, reports UNB.

Local people said Aziz Bepari, 40, netted a big 'Boal' fish in the River Kirtinasha on Thursday. And to his utter surprise he found gold worth Tk 40,000 inside the fish.

Five hurt as JCD factions clash in Feni

From Our Correspondent
FENI, Jan 30: At least five JCD activists were as two factions of the main opposition BNP-backed organisation clash on Wednesday night in the town.

According to police and witnesses, two factions - Mizan group and Masuad group - clashed over a dispute relating to wall writings.

Another report says: Five people were injured as two factions of Sonagazi thana BNP clashed in the thana headquarters on Thursday.

According to witnesses, two factions - Guasuddin group and Manik group - clashed at Char Chamdia under Sonagazi at 10 in the morning.

Call to make literacy drive a success

From Our Correspondent
SIRAJGANJ, Jan 30: A rally organised in connection with a literacy campaign was held here recently.

Home Minister Mohammad Nasim attended the rally as chief guest.

Pradipta Sirajganj, the literacy campaign, was launched in the district under Total Literacy Movement programme to make six lakh people literate.

The rally presided over by president of Pradipta Sirajganj and Deputy Commissioner AFM Saiful Islam, was addressed among others by Motahar Hossain Talukder, Abdul Mannan, ADC, Abu Yusuf Surja, Mostafizur Rahman, SP, Mohammad Nasim said urged people to help make the campaign a success. The government is trying its best to remove the problems in education sector, the minister said.

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Drug addicts up in B'baria district

From Sk Md Shahidul Islam

BRAHMANBARIA, Jan 30: The number of drug addicts is rising alarmingly causing concern among the peace loving people.

Drug Control Department, Brahmanbaria circle field 45 cases and arrested 12 persons during the last 12 month in this connection.

Most of the addicts are unemployed youths, unruly young boys, rickshawpullers, sweepers and transport workers.

Drug addicts mainly used the banned Indian phenisidyl syrup, rectified spirits and Chuli wine which are available in ordinary places, people alleged.

In order to meet the cost of drugs, the addicts are engaged in various anti-social activities including stealing, hijacking, mugging, snatching and smuggling, people added.

According to social workers and leaders lack of proper awareness, frustration, family trouble and frustration in live

are the main causes for increasing the number of drug addicts in the district.

Local people alleged that frustrated boys and addicts being failed to procure money from other places or sources take shelter under some cadres of the areas who easily recruit them and train them as criminals. The whole process is continuing under the patronage of certain 'big boss' of some political parties.

When criminals are arrested the political leaders rush to the police station to ensure their release.

Local people alleged, that after sun set the addicts gather at Old Court Building, Kachary Pokur Par, Tanbazar, Public Call Office (PCO) and rail station areas of the town for taking various drugs.

The In-Charge of PCO has alleged that some addicts in the guise of telephone caller come to his office and go to the toilet

in the name of natural call in the toilet where they drink Indian phenisidyl syrup. Later on the staff of the office clean empty bottle of phenisidyl from the toilet, they alleged.

The drugs are available in the many parts of the town and bordering Akhawa thana and Kasba thana because illegal phenisidyl syrup are being smuggled regularly through these places to Brahmanbaria town and other districts.

Though police and BDR-jawans are conducting separate operations in some parts of the district in this regard, drug addiction could not be stopped.

Meanwhile Kazipara Mahalla of Brahmanbaria Municipality is a place in where drug addiction is a regular feature, but the Drug Control Department hardly goes there to check it. Later on, the elite of Kazipara formed a committee to clean their areas from the drug addicts. They alleged that the in-

spector of Drug Control Department, Brahmanbaria circle did not co-operate them to control the addiction.

While contacted the inspector of the office has informed that he did not go to Kazipara but he plans to go there soon.

On the other hand, four persons died drinking liquor at Bancharampur thana last year.

Hospital sources said that at most nights of the month the staff of the emergency ward remain busy to wash the stomach of the drug addicts.

Local people and elite have urged the highest authorities to take the necessary action against the people who are involved in such illegal activities.

Larma says Uplift not possible unless autonomy is ensured

From Our Correspondent

KHAGRACHHARI, Jan 30: A day-long workshop on The Rural Development Projects in Hill Tracts was held on January 24, organised by the Ministry of Parbatiya Chhatra-gram and Asian Development Bank (ADB), reports BSS.

Jatinindra Bodhipriyo Larma (Shantu Larma), Chairman of the Hill Tracts Regional Committee and president of the Jati Sanghaty inaugurated the workshop.

Speaking about various aspects of development activities in the hill areas, Shantu Larma said after the peace accord it may seem that opportunity has been created for development but actual development will not be possible unless autonomy is ensured.

In his speech Shantu Larma said only economic development will not be enough. He added without social, cultural and political development there can not be any real development in hill tracts.

He urged the government to implement agro-forestry development plan for the hill tracts people.

ADB has taken up Taka 250 crore plan for rural development of the people in this region.

He also appealed for rehabilitation of the people of this areas who have been displaced for various reasons.

Sissoo trees dying in Jessore, Kushtia

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE, Jan 30: A large number of sissoo trees planted along the roads and highways in greater Jessore and Kushtia districts are dying due to disease.

The still unidentified disease has been taking its toll on the trees for the last four or five years. At first the disease attacks the leaves of a tree and after three or five months causes its death.

According to reports, nearly 20 lakh sissoo trees have died during the period in Jessore, Jhenaidah, Chuadanga, Meherpur, Kushtia and Satkhira districts.

When contacted an official of Forest Department, Jessore said pesticides can protect the trees.

Some nursery owners in Jessore district said buyers are now reluctant to buy sissoo saplings as the grown up trees are dying. They have urged the authorities concerned to take proper steps to address the problem.

News snaps

Pry dropouts up

CHAPAINAWABGANJ, Jan 30: The number of primary school-goers is decreasing in the remote rural areas due to acute poverty, a study revealed, reports BSS.

The study, conducted by a social organisation, said a large number of children aged between eight and 10 in shoal and remote areas are involved in various odd jobs, cattle grazing and rickshaw-pulling instead of going to schools. Most of them are from landless and poverty-stricken farmer families. So, they are forced to engage in odd jobs for survival. As a result the number of primary school-going children are decreasing in rural areas.

Clash over abduction

JHALAKATI, Jan 30: A clash between two families over abduction of a girl left three people injured at Berpasha village in Sadar thana on January 27, reports UNB.

Sultan Ali, father of an alleged abductor Mahmud Ali, aided by his associates attacked the girl's father Hares Ali, 45, mother Hasina Begum, 35, and relative Saidul, 30, at one stage of their quarrel. The injured were admitted to Jhalakati Hospital. Six months back, Hares Ali filed a case against Mahmud accusing him of kidnapping his daughter Jasmine. Mahmud was arrested in connection with the kidnapping while Jasmine is in safe custody.

Murderer gets life term

SATKHIRA, Jan 30: A court here has sentenced a man to life term rigorous imprisonment in a murder case, reports UNB.

The Additional District and Sessions Judge's court also fined convict Biramchandra Majumder Tk 50,000, in default, to suffer one year more RI. According to the prosecution, Biramchandra hacked Nurul Islam to death at village Islamkathi in Tala thana on February 25, 1993 following a land dispute. After examining the records and witnesses, the Judge delivered the judgement on Thursday.

Boy killed in road mishap

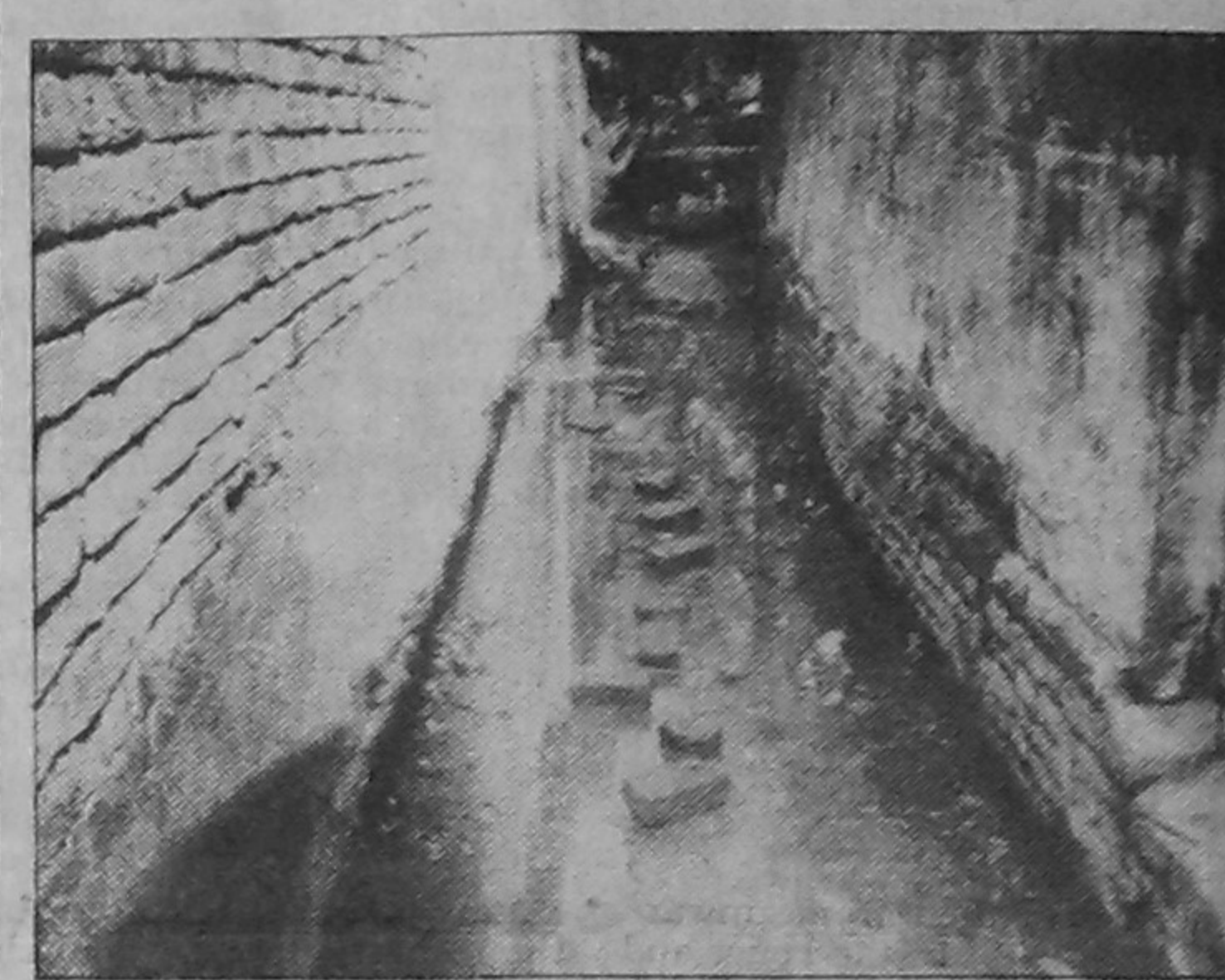
SATKHIRA, Jan 30: A boy was crushed under the wheels of a speeding minibus at Sreerampur in Kalganj thana on Friday, reports UNB.

Witnesses said Biswajit, 2, son of Nilmoti Sarker, met the tragic end of his life while he was playing on the road. The driver fled the scene with his vehicle. A case was filed.

94 uplift schemes progressing

KHAGRACHHARI, Jan 30: The District Council has taken up 94 development schemes involving Tk 2.80 crore, reports UNB.

The project include setting up of handlooms, construction of religious institutions and primary schools and development of irrigation infrastructure. Officials said Tk 1.28 crore has been sanctioned for 47 projects which are now under implementation while works on the remaining 47, costing Tk 1.52 crore, will begin in February.



This is a by-lane in the heart of Rajshahi city which connects Batar Goli in Rani Bazaar with Shashthi Tola. Hundreds of people use this by-lane everyday, but it remains submerged with dirty water for most of the time. Local people have urged the city corporation authorities for renovation of the by-lane and improve drainage, but their appeals went in vain. — Star photo

Barracks constructed

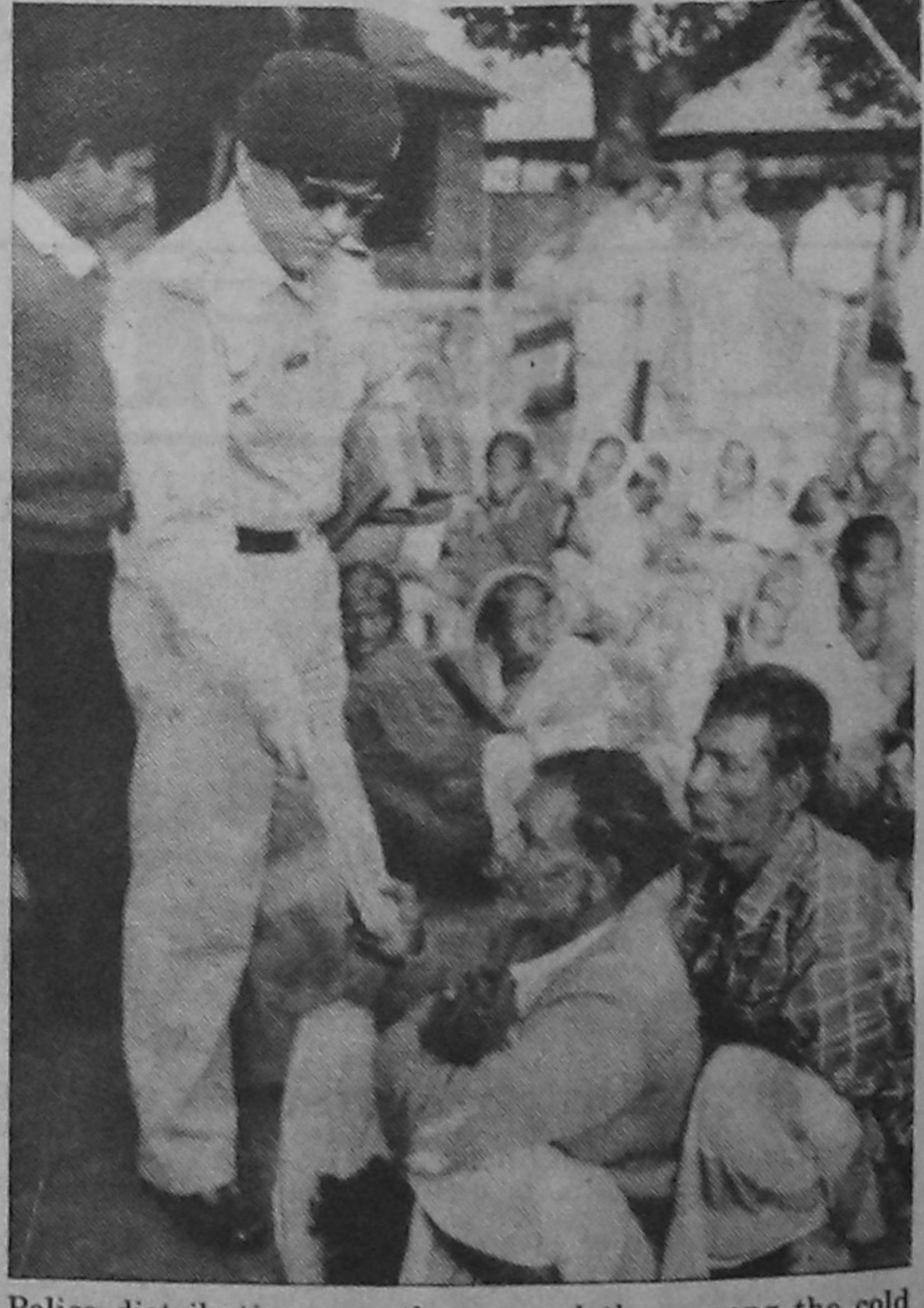
BENAPOLE (Jessore), Jan 30: Ten barracks have been constructed in four thanas of Jessore district under Ashrayan project for the accommodation of destitute families in government khas lands, reports BSS.

One hundred families have been accommodated in these 10 barracks. They have, also, been provided with other logistic supports including cash loans. Of the 10 barracks, three have been constructed in village Shankarpur under Jessore Municipality accommodating 30 families while three more barracks in village Agarhati under Courighona Union of Keshabpur Thana for the accommodation of 30 families. Similarly two barracks have been constructed in Karimpur village under Jamdia Union of Bagharpara thana while two more barracks in village Hayatpur under Chaluahati Union of Monirampur thana.

Mymensingh Bar Assoc election

MYMENSINGH, Jan 30: The election of the 15-member Executive Council of District Bar Association was held here on Thursday, reports UNB.

A total of 593 voters, out of 615, cast their votes in the election. Samannoy Parisad swept in the election bagging 10 posts along with the post of the president. Wazedul Islam and GM Anwar Hossain were elected president and general secretary respectively. The other office-bearers are: Vice-presidents: Anisur Rahman and Ramzan Al Pathan; Assistant Secretaries: Nurul Islam and Abul Hossain (Fulbaria); Assistant General Secretary: Abul Hossain (Trishal); Auditor: Maqbul Hossain Sarker; Members: Mozammel Huq Khan, Shawkat Osman, Abul Hossain Khan, Shah Nurul Alam, Shaheen Hasan, Monzurul Hasan, Kaisar Ahmed and Abdul Hannan Khan.



Police distributing recently warm clothes among the cold victims of Jhenidah town. — Star photo

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer (R&H)
Narayanganj Road Division
Shimrail, Narayanganj

R&H Tender Invitation Notice

1. Tender Notice Number : 36/Narayanganj Road Division, year 1999-2000.
2. Name of work : Earth filling by carried earth on road embankment to the south side of polder road under Narayanganj Road Division during 1999-2000 fiscal year. Divided into 9 (nine) groups.
3. Estimated cost : Taka as per attached group list.
4. Earnest money : Taka as per attached group list. In the form of Bank Draft/Protirakha Sanchay Patra/5-year Bangladesh Sanchaya Patra/Bonus Sanchaya Patra and Treasury Challan from schedule bank in favour of the undersigned.
5. Time allowed for work : As per attached group list.
6. Eligibility of contractors : As per attached group list.
7. Offices where tenders will be available : Executive Engineer (R&H), Road Division, Dhaka/Manikganj/Munshiganj/Gazipur/Narsingdi/Narayanganj/Planning & Design Division, Dhaka Zone, Sarak Bhaban, Dhaka and Sub-Divisional Engineer (R&H), Bhitikandi/Narayanganj/ Road Sub-Division.
8. Offices where tenders will be received : Superintending Engineer (R&H), Dhaka Road Circle, Dhaka/Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Circle, Dhaka Zone, Sarak Bhaban, Dhaka and the Executive Engineer (R&H), Narayanganj Road Division.
9. Last date and time of selling tender : 9.2.2000 till office hours.
10. Date and time of receiving tender : 10.2.2000 at 12:30 pm.
11. Date and time of opening tender : 14.2.2000 at 1:00 pm, Executive Engineer (R&H), Narayanganj Road Division.
12. Date and time of lottery : 16.2.2000 at 1:00 pm.
13. Head of expenditure : 168-repair.
14. Official to approve estimate : Superintending Engineer (R&H), Dhaka Road Circle, Dhaka.
15. Cost of tender : Taka 500/- per set (non-refundable).

Mentionable that the tender has been invited subject to the approval of the said work by the appropriate authority and the approved rate and estimated cost will be treated as final.

Group List

Tender Notice No-36/NRD, year 1999-2000, divided into total 9 (nine) groups.

Group number	Name of work and description	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time limit	Eligibility of contractors
1 (one)	Work of carried earth to the southern part on 2nd (part) km of Polder Road (Che 0m to 500m)	Taka 2,91,450/-	Taka 5829/-	15 (fifteen) days	'A' to 'E' general class.
2 (two)	Do Do Do 2nd (part) Do Do (Che 2150m to 2300m)	Taka 2,97,158/-	Taka 5943/-	15 (fifteen) days	'A' to 'E' general class.
3 (three)	Do Do Do 4th (part) Do Do (Che 0m to 155m)	Taka 2,61,554/-	Taka 5231/-	15 (fifteen) days	'A' to 'E' general class.
4 (four)	Do Do Do 4th (part) Do Do (Che 3000m to 3125m)	Taka 2,16,375/-	Taka 5328/-	15 (fifteen) days	'A' to 'E' general class.
5 (five)	Do Do Do 4th (part) Do Do (Che 3125m to 3275m)	Taka 2,49,765/-	Taka 4995/-	15 (fifteen) days	'A' to 'E' general class.
6 (six)	Do Do Do 7th (part) Do Do (Che 360m to 540m)	Taka 2,82,928/-	Taka 5659/-	15 (fifteen) days	'A' to 'E' general class.
7 (seven)	Do Do Do 8th (part) Do Do (Che 320m to 490m)	Taka 2,99,876/-	Taka 5998/-	15 (fifteen) days	'A' to 'E' general class.
8 (eight)	Do Do Do 8th (part) Do Do (Che 490m to 635m)	Taka 2,90,866/-	Taka 5817/-	15 (fifteen) days	'A' to 'E' general class.
9 (nine)	Do Do Do 8th (part) Do Do (Che 635m to 805m)	Taka 2,99,603/-	Taka 2992/-	15 (fifteen) days	'A' to 'E' general class.

Md Abdul Muktadir
Executive Engineer (R&H)
Narayanganj Road Division

Government of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
PWD Division, Chuadanga

PWD Notice Inviting Tender

Tender No. 8 Chua/1999-2000 Eng

Scaled tenders are hereby invited in BD Form No. 2911 for the undermentioned works:

- Name of work : Construction of Fire Service and Civil Defence Stations at 40 Nos. Important Thana's One at Alamdanga Thana in the Dist of Chuadanga (SH: Const of Boundary Wall around the Fire Service Station at Alamdanga during the year 1999-2000 Eng.
- Estimated cost : Tk. 6,87,802/- only.
- Earnest money : Tk. 13,756/- only.
- Time allowed for completion : 60 (Sixty) days.
- Cost of tender : Tk 425/- only.
- Name of the office where tender documents will be sold : Office of all the Executive Engineers under PWD Circle, Jessore.
- Name of the office where tender will be dropped : Office of all the Executive Engineers under PWD Circle, Jessore.
- Date of last selling : Up to 5:00 PM on 9-2-2000 Eng.
- Date of tender dropping and opening time : Up to 12:00 Noon on 10-2-2000 and opening at 12:15 PM on the same day.
- Eligibility of contractor /firms : a) 1st Class (Combined) and enlisted Contractor's/Firms of PWD according to their financial limit. b) The intending tenderers/firms must possess VAT (10 digit) registration certificate and TIN certificate. Attested photocopies of the above certificates will have to enclose with the tender. c) Attested photocopy of the page of the registration book where the signature of the contractor or proprietor of the firm has been attested by the Executive Engineer and also attested photocopy of the page where renewal fee (up to date) has been recorded. The original money receipt of purchasing tender document will have to enclose with the tender document also.
- Lottery (if neccy) : If several tenders are dropped at the lowest rate then the lowest tenderer will be selected through lottery to be held in the office chamber of the undersigned on 23-2-2000 at 11:00 AM in presence of the intending tenderers/representative of firms who may like to remain present.
- The undersigned reserves the right to reject or accept any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

Md Abdul Wahab
Executive Engineer
PWD Division, Chuadanga
Phone No. 3205

DPF-1489-25/1
G-168