

Kushtia flood situation improves

Four lakh marooned in Netrakona

From Our Correspondent



Erosion by the River Padma has taken a serious turn in Pachonkhola village under Tongibari upazila of Munshiganj district. The village is likely to be devoured by the river completely soon. The erosion affected villagers have been shifting to safer places along with their houses and furniture. Photo shows the erosion stricken people have also been cutting down their trees.

KUSHTIA, Aug 19: With the fall of water level of both the Padma and the Garai flood situation in the district has improved. The Padma has continued to recede for the last one week. The river on Friday marked 2 cm fall at Harding Bridge point. Steady fall of water level of the River Padma has enabled the farmers to reap badly damaged standing crops. However, erosion has taken serious turn with recession of water level. The erosion by the Padma devoured some one thousand dwelling houses in the last 15 days in Daulatpur upazila, rendering about 8,000 people homeless. Erosion-hit people are moving to safer places. Many are taking shelters in public buildings and on highlands. The erosion-affected people have been facing scarcity of drinking water, sufficient food and clothes. Waterborne diseases like diarrhoea and dysentery have broken out in the flood affected area. Farmers are also facing fodder scarcity. No relief materials, however, were reached in the flood-affected area. Meanwhile, prices of rice and other essentials have gone up, causing sufferings to common people. No official of district administration visited the flood-affected area.

Erosion by the Garai has taken serious turn in Kumarkhal upazila. The erosion is posing threat to many handloom factories. **Our Netrakona correspondent says:** Flood situation in the district on Friday deteriorated with more areas inundating. About four lakh people in five upazilas were marooned. Water levels in the Someshwary, Kansha, Mogra and Danu rivers were rising. Besides, water from hills in neighbouring India and heavy rainfalls during the last four days have aggravated the situation. **Brishiri, Kakayargarh, Bakajura, Chandigarh, Barmari**

and Gaokandi unions in Durgapur upazila and Karnal, Langura, Rongehati, Nagirpur, Puga and Barkapon in Kalmakanda upazila had gone under water. Beside, some areas of Khalajuri, Furbadhola and Sadar upazilas went under three feet water. Floodwater washed away Aman crop on 20 thousand hectares of land and at least 1,000 *kutcha* houses. Road communication between the district headquarters and Durgapur, Kalmakanda, and Sadar upazilas were disrupted. A good portion of Netrakona-Brishiri road at Shuknaki was badly damaged by floodwater. **BSS from Shariatpur says:** Two breaches developed at Angaria and Bhasanchar in the Padma embankment last week. Water Development Board (WDB), however, took a quick remedial measure by dumping concrete blocks and sandbags in the breaches. According to WDB, the river was flowing 29 cm above the danger mark last week. **BSS from Rangpur adds:** The repair and reconstruction of the embankment on the River Teesta is going on full swing. Water Development Board (WDB) is executing the programme in three upazilas at a cost of Taka 31 lakh and 980 tonnes of wheat granted under Food for Works Programme (FWP). The embankment runs through three upazilas under greater Rangpur district. **Another report from Satkhira says:** Erosion by the River Kholapatua has taken a serious turn in Abichat village under Assasuni upazila. About 50 hectares of land with homesteads had gone into the riverbed. More than 100 people were rendered homeless due to the erosion of the River Kholapatua. The erosion affected people shifted to safer places. The erosion stricken people have been passing their days in misery.

Freshers' reception at RU

From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY, Aug 19: Reception to first year (honours) students of 1999-2000 session of the university was held at Kazi Nazrul Islam auditorium recently. Vice Chancellor Prof Sayeedur Rahman Khan attended the function as chief guest. The vice chancellor urged the fresh students to study attentively and attend classes regularly. The university will be free of any session jam within the next year if the present congenial academic atmosphere continues, he added. "We have been able to reduce the jam to only one year from 4-5 years, thanks to co-operation of students, teachers and officials", the VC said. The reception was also addressed, among others, by Pro Vice Chancellor Prof Wazed Ali. The reception was followed by a cultural show.

ICMA, Ctg classes begin

Class inauguration ceremony of Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of Bangladesh, Chittagong branch for the session of July-December 2000 was held in Chittagong last week, says a press release.

Held at CMA Bhaban, the function was attended by Prof SA Siddiqui, principal of Agrabad Mohila College, as chief guest and Prof Sayesta Khan, principal of Government Nasirabad Women's College, as special guest. A large number of students and fellow, associate members and members of the Institute were present. Institute members Salam Ullah, Md Shafiqul Islam, Ibrahim Khalil and Rafiqul Alam, among others, also spoke on the occasion. The chief guest advised the students to attend classes regularly and not to indulge in politics.

News snaps

From Our Correspondent

Four robbed
KISHOREGANJ, Aug 19: Muggers robbed four people, including a woman, near Bhalrab Girls' High School on Wednesday, reports UNB. Police said a gang of snatchers intercepted the rickshaw of Rozina on Barodia Road and looted her gold ornaments and Tk 5,000 after stabbing her. Just after a while on the same road, the muggers waylaid three traders and snatched away a gold chain, wristwatches and cash money from them leaving one of the traders injured seriously. The injured were admitted to local hospital. Meanwhile, police arrested six alleged snatchers and sent them to jail hajat.

Terrorists cut tendon of JCD leader
COMILLA, Aug 19: A terrorist gang cut the tendon of a JCD leader of Comilla Medical College on August 12, reports UNB. The armed group came on the campus at 11 am by a microbus and a motor cycle and entered into the room of Golam Kibria Lito, General Secretary of CMC JCD, at the college hostel. They cut the tendon of his right leg. Before fleeing the campus, the hoodlums damaged some rooms of the hostel and exploded a number of crackers. Lito was admitted to CMC hospital. Local BNP, Jubo Dal and JCD have strongly protested and condemned the attack.

Schoolboy killed in road mishap
JHALAKATI, Aug 19: A schoolboy was crushed under the wheels of a microbus at Brishkati area in the town on Thursday, reports UNB. Police said the Khulna-bound microbus hit Foyzal, 8, a student of class II of Milon Mandir Government Primary School and son of Manik Hawlader, killing him on the spot. Later, police seized the bus from Baikuta ferry-ghat of Projpur district.

Dengue fever has created panic among the people of Netrakona. So, Netrakona district administration and Netrakona Municipality jointly organised a procession in the district town recently in order to create awareness about the horror of dengue fever among the people. The procession was also aimed at motivating the people about cleanliness and also about keeping away from Aedes mosquitoes. The procession paraded the main thoroughfares of the town. -Star photo

Allowance distributed
BANDARBAN, Aug 19: Social Welfare Department under its old age allowance programme distributed Tk 2.25 lakh among 225 destitute women in five unions of Sadar upazila on Tuesday, reports UNB. On the occasion, a programme was held at the Town with UNO Aprup Chowdhury in the chair. Chairman of CHT Development Board Bir Bahadur, MP attended the programme as chief guest. Allowances for 10 months were disbursed among the recipients from 45 wards of the five unions, officials said.

Forest resources dwindling
RANGAMATI, Aug 19: Forest resources are dwindling fast as smuggling of valuable timbers from various forests has been on the rise, reports UNB. There have been reports that the smugglers in connivance with dishonest forest officials and employees are siphoning out timbers from Shishok in Baghachhari, Farua and Barkal in Balaichhari upzilas. Usually, they take the timbers out of forest through Naniarchar, Kaptal, Kaokhal and Ragosthal points as the law-enforcers at different check posts hardly take action against the bootleggers. They are also indiscriminately logging the bamboo of the forests defying the government ban.

Rapist gets life term
HABIGANJ, Aug 19: A court here on Wednesday condemned a man to life term in jail in a rape case, reports UNB. The convict was identified as Rangu Mia of village Dakkhin Gajnapur in Nabiganj upazila. The case history in brief: Rangu had picked up a six-year-old girl of the village, taken her to a nearby hillock and raped her there on May 2, 1998. She was later recovered by villagers and sent to Sadar Hospital in a critical condition. Police submitted a charge sheet against nine people after a case was filed by her father Abdur Noor. After examining the records and witnesses, the District and Sessions Judge found Rangu guilty of rape and handed down the verdict. The judge, however, acquitted eight others.

Seedlings distributed
RANGAMATI, Aug 19: Rangamati Hill District Council (RHDC) has distributed 12,150 seedlings and grafting of different fruit-bearing plants at a cost of Taka 2.5 lakh to the interested persons of 10 upazilas to make the tree plantation programme a success, reports BSS. A number of 4,500 seedlings of coconut, 1,650 lichis, 1,500 improved variety of mango and 1,500 seedlings of champa, lemon and amlaki were distributed to 1,500 persons from the district headquarters while the rest of the seedlings and graftings were distributed from upazila agriculture offices, official said.

Youth with fake notes held
BOGRA, Aug 19: A youth was arrested along with counterfeit notes of Tk 6,000 from the town on Sunday, reports UNB. The fake money included 10 notes of Tk 500 and five notes of Tk 100 denominations and one note of Rs 500 in Indian currency. Detective Branch police on secret information arrested Zoaer Hossain, 25, from the town's Satmatha crossing and recovered the counterfeit notes. Zoaer, son of Mofazzal Hossain, of village Saigun in Kalal upazila of Joypurhat district is allegedly a member of swindle group. The fake note panic is almost everywhere in the northern region, as an organised gang has already cheated huge number of people. Earlier, Sadar police hauled up a fake note producing machine and recovered fake notes, but they allegedly did not take legal action against the criminals due to mysterious reasons. -Star photo by AZ Bablu

RU Commerce students boycott classes

From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY, Aug 19: A group of students of Commerce Faculty of the university boycotted classes on Thursday demanding the reinstatement of six-month semester system in examinations. The authorities have decided to introduce one-year course system instead of semester system in Commerce Faculty, which includes Accounting, Finance and Banking, Management and Marketing departments. The decision to introduce course system was taken by the academic council of the university on August 1. The decision now needs final approval from syndicate. However, the students of the faculty are now divided over the issue. Two groups of students locked in a clash over the issue on August 10, leaving 150 injured.

Construction of IU Shahid Minar begins next month

From A Correspondent

ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY, Kushtia, Aug 19: Construction of Shahid Minar, a monument to commemorate the martyrs of 1952 Language Movement, is expected to begin on the campus next month, university authorities said. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina laid the foundation stone of the Shahid Minar on the campus on December 5, 1999. However, in 1991 another foundation stone of Shahid Minar was laid. But the monument was not built. The Shahid Minar will be a modern and exceptional monument, the authorities said. The monument will be called "Shahid Smriti Soudha" (Martyrs' memorial). It will represent the history from 1952 to 1971 AD. A committee has been formed for the monument. The committee members include Vice chancellor of IU Prof Kyesuddin, artist Hasen Khan, Montasir Mamun, architect Rabiul Hossain, IU teacher Prof MAlauddin.

Child raped

From Our Correspondent

MOULVIBAZAR, Aug 19: A four-year-old girl child was raped at Srimangal town recently. According to police, a 23-year-old youth from the same locality took the child to secluded place and raped her. Hearing the scream of the child people rushed to the spot and rescued the victim. The victim was rushed to Srimangal Upazila Health Complex and later transferred to Moulvibazar Sadar Hospital. Police arrested the youth, identified as Nasiruddin, son of Tahir Miah, and sent him to jail. A case was filed.

Magura clinics sans essential props

From Our Correspondent

MAGURA, Aug 19: In absence of proper monitoring the standard of treatment in private clinics here in the district headquarters is decreasing day by day, depriving patients of proper healthcare. Most of the clinics here lack infrastructures like equipment, adequate number of doctors and space required by law. The town has nine private clinics. Of these, only five clinics are registered. As per rule, two doctors, five nurses and two sweepers should be required for ten patients. But only one or two junior doctors run a clinic here. Most of the nurses have no proper training from nurses training institutes, it is alleged. There are many allegations of gross negligence and wrong diagnosis by doctors in clinics. "Inspection by the officials concerned is virtually absent, encouraging the malpractice in the private clinics," said a doctor of Magura Sadar Hospital on condition of anonymity. Almost all the clinics have no well-equipped operation theatres (OTs). These clinics usually use household bulbs in the OTs instead of OT lamps, patients said. Besides, some clinic owners have posted agents to lure patients in the name of 'better treatment'. These influential agents, who enjoy free access to Magura Sadar Hospital premises, convince patients and their attendants and try to admit the victims to private clinics. A section of doctors and staffs at Sadar Hospital allegedly work for clinics. Some patients, who are refused admission in hospital in planned way, are advised by some doctors to get admitted to certain clinics for 'better treatment'. UNB from Rangpur adds: Despite government's commitment to provide health services to all, about 15 lakh people of greater Rangpur and Dinajpur districts are suffering from fatal tuberculosis (TB), goiter, filarial and leprosy diseases.

A sex-worker mother's plea to her children

Don't follow my footsteps

BAGERHAT, Aug 19: Zohra, a pretty woman with long black hair, has two lovely kids. Once she worried little about their future, but now the unmarried 25-year-old woman wonders how she will balance motherhood with her hated profession: commercial sex. Although Zohra has a room to share with her little daughters, she sleeps with more than one man in another room in Banishanta warehouse. "I'm not at all worried about myself. But I want my daughters not to follow my footsteps," Zohra said sitting in front of a tin-shed house in the brothel on the west bank of river Poshur in Dakop upazila. Her two daughters, aged about seven and five respectively, go to a local school run by an NGO. Talking to this correspondent, Zohra said pimps had picked up her when she was a little girl and now she cannot recall where their house was. While visiting the warehouse, this correspondent found that there are over 50 underage girls who are coerced into prostitution. In recent times, the incidence of abducting adolescent girls and selling them to brothels like Banishanta has marked an alarming rise. Allegations are also there against police of helping the pimps in this criminal business. The country has got adequate laws against kidnapping of women and violence against them. But the laws are hardly practised. However, the country's Constitution allows a girl above 18 to become a sex worker, but for that one needs an affidavit from a notary public or a magistrate, a rule never followed in brothels. The usual practice is that pimps produce teenage girls before the Magistrate court and force them to declare that they are above 18 and intend to engage in commercial sex. In Banishanta, affidavits are done with the help of 54 Sardarnis or snakeheads and their associates. According to a pimp, who spoke on condition of anonymity, they lure the girls of poverty-stricken families with promises of jobs and then sell them to warehouses. In Banishanta a young girl is sold at Tk 20,000-25,000. There are some other people who trap girls into marriage and then sell them to pimps who resold them to warehouses. At present there are above 400 sex workers, including 50 underage girls, in the Banishanta brothel. "Of them, only 249 have official papers or affidavits," said a police official while this correspondent was visiting the red-light area. According to a study, there are about one lakh sex workers in the country and each of them has a sad story of slipping into the hated profession. Divorcees, women abandoned by their husbands, kidnapped and floating women and girls are among the sex workers. Witnesses said new girls are tortured inhumanly to go to bed with clients. When this move fails, food supply is stopped at one stage and thus innocent girls are forced to take up the profession. Most of the clients of this brothel are crewmen of the foreign ships that anchor at Mongla Port and they prefer teenage girls. Recently, police raided the brothel and rescued an adolescent girl of Hujlpara in Mehendiganj upazila of Barisal district. The police raid on the warehouse followed a press report. The rescued 14-year-old girl had been lured out of her house by one Nargis with a promise of a job and then she sold her to a police constable, Moti, who later resold her to a Sardarni. Such isolated police raids on brothels are not enough to rescue all ill-fated girls from the hands of culprits as most of them play games from behind the scene. Talking to this correspondent, a number of sex workers of the warehouse said each of them fetch up Tk 7,500 per month, but a large chunk of it goes to the pockets of Sardarnis, police and local musclemen. The sex workers said they know little about sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and AIDS, and a few of them take protective measures while having sex with clients. --UNB Feature

তিতাস গ্যাস ট্রান্সমিশন এন্ড ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানী লিঃ
(পেট্রোলিং একটি কোম্পানী)
১০৫, কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম এভিনিউ, ঢাকা-১২১৫
ফোনঃ ৯৫৬৬৬৭-৬৮, ৯৫৬৬৬৭০, ৮১১২১৩৫-৪২, ৮১১৯২১০
সূত্র নং ৯৪.১৩/ডিএজি/২০০০-২০০১/১ তারিখঃ ১৭-০৮-২০০০ইং

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

কোম্পানীর ১৯৯৮-৯৯ ও ১৯৯৯-২০০০ইং সালের ১.৩ ও ১.৪ কাটাগারিতে তালিকাভুক্ত পাইপ লাইন নির্মাণকারী তিসাদাকাসের নিকট হইতে নিম্নলিখিত প্রকল্পটির পাইপ লাইন নির্মাণের জন্য সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাইতেছেঃ

ক্রম নং	প্রকল্পের নাম/বিবরণ	দরপত্রের মূল্য	কাজের মেয়াদ
০১	ক) বিসিক শিফট নগরী ময়মনসিংহে গ্যাস পাইপ লাইন নির্মাণ প্রকল্প। খ) বিসিক শিফট নগরী জামালপুরে গ্যাস পাইপ লাইন নির্মাণ প্রকল্প।	প্রতিসেট টাঃ ৫০০.০০ (পাঁচশত), অফিসেরযোগ্য, যাচা তিতাস গ্যাস চিএফডি কোং লিঃ-এর অনুমোদিত ব্যাংক ড্রাফট। পে-অর্ডারের মাধ্যমে দরপত্রের সঠিক অবশ্যই জমা দিতে হবে।	৪৫ (পঁয়তাল্লিশ) দিন।
০২	দরপত্র জানানত : উক্ত দরপত্র ২.৫% তিতাস গ্যাস চিএফডি কোং লিঃ-এর অনুমোদিত ব্যাংক-এর অফিসিয়াল ব্যাংক হইতে কোন ব্যক্তিগত ব্যাংক হইতে ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডারের মাধ্যমে দরপত্রের সঠিক অবশ্যই জমা দিতে হবে। দরপত্র দলিলের মূল্য ও জামানতের অর্থ পৃথক পৃথক পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফটের মাধ্যমে দাখিল করিতে হবে।		
০৩	দরপত্র দাখিল নিত্যসেতের তারিখঃ ২৩-০৮-২০০০ইং হইতে ৩০-০৮-২০০০ইং সকল কার্যদিবসে সন্ধ্যা ০৯:০০ ঘটিকা হইতে ১৪:০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।		
০৪	০১-০৮-২০০০ইং তারিখ বেল্লা ১২৪৩০ মিনিট উপ-মহা-ব্যবস্থাপক (পানিবি)-এর দরপত্র/কার্যালয়, বাটীত অস্বাভাবিকভাবে প্রত্যক্ষ দরপত্র গ্রহণ করা হইবে। ০২-০৮-২০০০ইং তারিখ বেল্লা ১২৪৩০ মিনিট উপ-মহা-ব্যবস্থাপক (পানিবি)-এর দরপত্র/কার্যালয়, বাটীত অস্বাভাবিকভাবে প্রত্যক্ষ দরপত্র গ্রহণ করা হইবে। ০৩-০৮-২০০০ইং তারিখ বেল্লা ১২৪৩০ মিনিট উপ-মহা-ব্যবস্থাপক (পানিবি)-এর দরপত্র/কার্যালয়, বাটীত অস্বাভাবিকভাবে প্রত্যক্ষ দরপত্র গ্রহণ করা হইবে। ০৪-০৮-২০০০ইং তারিখ বেল্লা ১২৪৩০ মিনিট উপ-মহা-ব্যবস্থাপক (পানিবি)-এর দরপত্র/কার্যালয়, বাটীত অস্বাভাবিকভাবে প্রত্যক্ষ দরপত্র গ্রহণ করা হইবে।	৪.১। পাইপ লাইন নির্মাণ বিজ্ঞাপন, ১০৫, কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম এভিনিউ, কাকারান বাজার সা/এ, ঢাকা-১২১৫। ৪.২। রাজস্ব মেট্রো বিজ্ঞাপন-১, তিতাস গ্যাস, ২৫/৪, গোলাপবাগ, ঢাকা-১২১৭। ৪.৩। বিসিক মেট্রো বিজ্ঞাপন-১, তিতাস গ্যাস, ৭, মতিঝিল বা/এ, ঢাকা-১০০০। ৪.৪। রাজস্ব মেট্রো বিজ্ঞাপন-২, তিতাস গ্যাস, ৭, মতিঝিল বা/এ, ঢাকা-১০০০। ৪.৫। বিসিক মেট্রো বিজ্ঞাপন-২, তিতাস গ্যাস, এনং মহাশালা বা/এ, ঢাকা। ৪.৬। রাজস্ব মেট্রো বিজ্ঞাপন-৩, তিতাস গ্যাস, বাড়ি নং-৩, এভিনিউ-২, রক-সি, মিরপুর-১০, ঢাকা। ৪.৭। বিসিক মেট্রো বিজ্ঞাপন-৩, তিতাস গ্যাস, ১/৫, রক-এ, লাঙ্গলমাটিয়া, ঢাকা। ৪.৮। জাতীয় বিজ্ঞাপন, তিতাস গ্যাস, ডেমসা, ঢাকা। ০১-০৮-২০০০ইং তারিখ বেল্লা ১২৪৩০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।	
০৫	দরপত্র গ্রহণের শেষ তারিখ ও স্থানঃ		
০৬	দরপত্র কোয়ার তারিখ, সময় ও স্থানঃ		
০৭	অন্যান্য তথ্য ও শর্তাবলীঃ		

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Public Works E/M Division-3, Dhaka

Memo No: 206 Dated: 06/08/2000

Tender Invitation Notice
No. 06/2000-2001

Tenders in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 under sealed envelope are invited from Public Works Directorate's enlisted special 1st class/E&M works 1st class/2nd class contractors having VAT registration book for the undermentioned work. Tenders will be received in the tender box kept at Public Works E/M Division-1/2/3, Dhaka and Public Works Eden Building Division, Dhaka during office hours up to 12:00 Noon of 28-08-2000 and will be opened on the same day at 12:15 PM in presence of the tenderers or their authorised representatives (if any). Tender schedule, form and terms & conditions etc. can be purchased on cash payment of usual price Tk 425/- (four hundred twenty-five) only (non-refundable) from Public Works E/M Division-1/2/3, Dhaka and Public Works Eden Building Division, Dhaka during office hours up to 27-08-2000. 2% (two per cent) of the estimated cost as earnest money must be submitted with each tender through Bank Draft/PO/SDR/CD from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh Bank in favour of the Executive Engineer, Public Works E/M Division-3, Dhaka. Contractor himself or his authorised representative can purchase tender form on production of enlistment registration book with necessary papers. The undersigned reserves the right to accept any tender or reject all tenders without assigning any reason.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Prescribed time limit for completion of work
1)	Electrical work of the 1 st & 2 nd floor of the Electrical Sub-Station, AC Plant Room-cum-Multipurpose Building constructed at the south side of BIRDEM Hospital at Shabbagh, Dhaka	Tk. 1,17,881/-	At the rate 2% (two per cent) of the estimated cost	1 (one) month from the date of issuing work-order

Bimal Kumar Kundu
Executive Engineer
Public Works E/M Division-3
Segunbagicha, Dhaka
Phone: 9555305

উপ-মহা-ব্যবস্থাপক
পাইপ লাইন নির্মাণ বিজ্ঞাপন
ফোন-৮১১২১৩০

তিতাস/জনসংযোগ-১৯/২০০০-২০০১
জিডি-৭৮২

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Public Works E/M Division-3, Dhaka

Memo No: 206 Dated: 06/08/2000

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