



Flood situation has improved slightly in Magura district. The flood has left hundreds of people homeless. Picture shows: (Left) a flood affected family still living in a flood shelter at Amuria village in the Sadar upazila, (Middle) two children moving by a small boat, locally called 'Dunga' across submerged land which was full of crops just before the deluge, (Right) a flood victim engaged in fishing in the receding flood waters.

89,448 criminals arrested in 18 months in 16 dists

From Abdul Wadood

RAJSHAHI, Oct 15: Police arrested a total of 89,448 criminals including terrorists, extortionists, absconding accused of various cases and out of 16 districts of Rajshahi division in last one and a half year since April 17, 1999, official sources here said.

During the same period, police also recovered 3,171 fire-arms and ammunitions.

In addition to the normal and regular activities, police conducted a special anti-terrorism drive from September 12 to September 17 in six districts which contributed much to the success in arresting such a large number of criminals and recovering huge quantity of arms.

According to the official sources in Rajshahi Range of Police, the highest number of criminals were arrested from Sirajganj. The number is 10,716 followed by 10,618 from Bogra, 9,528 from Pabna, 9,327 from Rangpur, 8,349 from Rajshahi, 7,206 from Dinajpur, 5,462 from Naogaon, 5,364 from Natore, 4,900 from Gaibandha, 3,373 from Chapainawabganj, 2,780 from Nilphamari, 2,518 from Joypurhat, 2,508 from Panchagarh, 2,322 from Lalmonirhat, 2,272 from Kurigram and 2,205 from Thakurgaon districts.

Out of the total arms and ammunition recovered, foreign made firearms were 355 in number. The number of country-made fire-arms recovered were 271. More over, 2390 cartooj, bullets and 155 explosives were recovered. The arms end ammunition came mainly from the neighbouring country through smuggling. According to informations gathered by police from interrogations of the arrested people and investigations the arms were used by terrorists, dacoits and as well as by political party cadres.

Rajshahi Range of police claimed that the over-all law and order situation in Rajshahi division had improved much. Settlement of a large number of hanging warrants, rapid and proper investigations of the registered cases, arrest of criminals in increasing number, recovery of a huge amount of arms and different kinds of anti-crime drives had brought the success.

The number of crimes in the first six months of the current calendar year decrease in comparison with that of the corresponding period in last calendar year, sources claimed.

According to the official sources, dacoity decreased by 12.37 per cent, robbery decreased by 17.39 per cent, killing by 8.04 per cent, riot by 48.66 per cent, law and order cases by 27.49 per cent, woman repression by 0.42 per cent, child repression by 8.88 per cent, abduction decreased by 44.72 per cent, theft by 20.31 per cent and other crimes decreased by 17.52 per cent.

On the other hand the number of cases of fire-arms, ammunitions, explosives and smugglings increased by 6.86 per cent.

A highly placed police official of Rajshahi Range, unwilling to be named, said that they had ensured justified and logical application of the Public Safety Act (PSA). So the cases under PSA are very few in number. A total of nine cases under PSA have so far been decided up to September 15 and the accused of all the cases have been found guilty and punished by the courts, sources said.

During the period, a total number of 366 outlawed Sarbahara and other communist cadres surrendered to police, the sources said.

A total of 38 communist extremists surrendered to police with 26 fire-arms and 36 ammunition on July 27, 1999 in Pabna.

Out of them, two were released as police had no specific charge against them. The other 36 were wanted in different cases. They were produced before the court.

Twenty-eight more out-lowed communist extremists surrendered to police in the same district on January 27 this year. They did not deposit any arms. All of them were released for having no case against them.

On March 27 of 2000, a total of 300 Sarbahara people of the same district surrendered to police. Out of them 250 had been produced before the court and sent to jail as there had been cases against them. The rest were released for not having charges against them.

Two murdered in Thakurgaon

THAKURGAON, Oct 15: Two people were killed in separate incidents in the district, police said, reports UNB.

Locals said Arjena Begum, 38, of village Faingadighi in Ranisankoil upazila was killed while she tried to save her son from the attack of the rival group.

A quarrel ensued between Mosharrar Hossain, son of Arjena and Abdul Huq and Abdul Mannan two sons of Abdul Quader when they were playing 'Ludu' at the house of Quader recently.

When the inmates of the house started beating Mosharrar mercilessly his mother came to his rescue and met the tragic end.

In another incident the rival group while fishing at a nearby pond recently killed Salmullah, 50, of village Baliara in Haripur upazila.

Salmullah while fishing asked his neighbours Fazul and Rashid not to focus torch light on the pond. Later a clash ensued and the two neighbours beat him to death.

Chittagong Newspaper Hawkers' Society executives



President Secy

Nurul Alam and Arun Sen were elected new president and general secretary of Chittagong Newspaper Hawkers' Multilateral Cooperative Society Ltd in an election held at the Cheragj hills office of the Society in Chittagong on Thursday, says a press release.

One hundred sixty-eight voters cast their votes. Journalist Helal Uddin Chowdhury, president of the election committee declared the election result in the evening.

A total of 110 votes were cast in favour of elected president Nurul Alam while his nearest rival Obaidul Huq Mojumder got only 56 votes. Md Soleman became vice-president gaining 91 votes. His nearest rival Joyal Abedin got 70 votes. The general secretary was elected unanimously. The new directors were Abul Hashem, Selim Reza and Santosh Nath gaining 98, 93 and 91 votes respectively. Another contestant Anwar Hossain got 79 votes.

In a post election meeting president of the election committee Helal Uddin Chowdhury, members Shabbir Ahmed Siddiky, Amir Hossain, newly elected president Nurul Alam, his opponent Obaidul Huq Mojumder, newly elected vice-president Md soleman, his rival Joyal Abedin, newly elected general secretary Arun Sen, director contestant anwar Hossain, president of Newspaper Hawkers' Union abu Taher, general secretary Daudul Islam, organising secretary Mokbul Ahmed spoke.

Liberation War sculpture awaits inauguration

From Aminul Islam

MYMENSINGH, Oct 15: The sculpture on Bangladesh Agricultural University campus here commemorating the War of Liberation awaits formal inauguration.

Construction of the sculpture at a cost of Taka 24 lakh has been completed recently. Late Vice Chancellor of BAU Muhammed Hussain laid the foundation stone of the sculpture in 1988. The 36-foot high sculpture was named Bangladesh Krishi Vishwavidyalaya Muktiuddha Smriti Bhaskariya (Bangladesh Agricultural University Liberation War Sculpture). The university sources said formal inauguration date will be announced soon.

Shyamal Chowdhury, the sculptor, said three figures in the sculpture depict people from all walks of life who participated in the War of Liberation in 1971. The three figures include a woman, a student and a farmer.

The student in action with a rifle represents active participation of student community in the war. The image of the woman symbolises women's struggle while the icon a farmer stands for common people. The concrete sculpture also describes the three stages of the war. The woman urges all to participate in the war. The armed youth represents battle while the farmer holding flag symbolises joyous people after victory.



A view of the just constructed sculpture on Bangladesh Agricultural University campus in Mymensingh. The sculpture commemorating the War of Liberation awaits formal inauguration.

--Star photo

Bid to bridge gap between tribal, non-tribal people

KHAGRACHHARI, Oct 15: Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) has launched a programme styled as "Local Capacities for Peace Project (LCPP)" in three districts of Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT), reports UNB.

The programme, first of its kind in the country, is aimed at bridging the gap between the tribal and non-tribal people and ensuring their peaceful coexistence through creating an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect.

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Society is providing assistance to implement the LCPP programme in CHT of Bangladesh as well as Tajikistan and Ethiopia.

It is an international programme and the concept has been taken as a pilot programme to institutionalize post-conflict relief and rehabilitation experience.

Some 180 people of three hill districts were given training on first aid and low cost health intervention in February this year and 50 of them had been given appointments as part time workers under the programme.

A total of 600 workers, one-third of whom are women, would be given training under the

programme. Both the tribal and non-tribal will be ensured in the training process from where a total of 150 people, 50 from each district, will be recruited finally.

A daylong workshop on LCPP was held at Khagrachhari recently.

The workshop identified eight problems under the programme. These are: area poverty, lower level of education, poor health condition, poor water and sanitation, vulnerability of women, environmental degradation, social and religious conflict and rehabilitation of the returnees and internally displaced people.

The inaugural session of the workshop was addressed by LCPP programme Co-ordinator Netor Arnest Cumming, Chief Co-ordinator Upendra Lal Chakma, president of Jumma Refugee Welfare Association, Senior Advisor of BDRCS Anwar Hoshen.

The CHT Development Project Co-ordinator Mominul Hoshen, Nazmul Azam Khan, District Red Crescent Unit Officer Khalilur Rahman and Khagrachhari District Unit Secretary Konglari Chowdhury also attended the programme.

Work on the project has begun in June this year and is expected to be completed by next June.

News snaps

Advocacy meeting

BANDARBAN, Oct 15: An advocacy meeting was held here on Sunday seeking cooperation of all in eliminating polio through the 8th National Immunisation Day 2000, reports UNB.

Civil Surgeon Dr Firoz Khan presided over the meeting held at the auditorium of his office. Addressing the meeting, he said some 50,238 under-5 children were administered polio vaccines under the 7th National Immunisation Programme as the vaccines were supplied to the inaccessible rural areas by helicopters. The Civil Surgeon said efforts are underway to collect a helicopter for vaccine supply to the remote areas on the 8th National Immunisation Day. The meeting was informed that children would be administered with the first dose of polio vaccine on Nov 15 while the second dose on Dec 17. Concerned government officials, NGO workers, local politicians and newsmen were present at the meeting. Dr G C Pal, Assistant Director of EPI, Dr Abdul Karim presented a report on EPI programme at the meeting.

Body recovered

BOGRA, Oct 15: Police recovered the body of a young man on Sunday two days after his abduction from a paddy field at Mongolpur village in Adamdighi upazila, reports UNB.

The victim was identified as Tozammel Haque, 30. He was abducted from his house on October 5. In another incident, a man was arrested along with 170 bottles of Indian phensidyl from Matidhali area in the town on the same day. Police arrested Razib, son of Ibrahim of Monglepara area, while he was carrying the banned alcoholic syrup in a private car.

Shibir workers' threat

SYLHET, Oct 15: A group of youths, said to be the activists of Islami Chhatra Shibir, stormed the newsroom of a local daily, 'Jalalabad', and hurled abuses at the newsmen on Sunday evening, reports UNB.

The youths scolded the journalists for publishing a news item about the arrest of a local Jamaat leader and left the office threatening them of dire consequences. Editor of the daily Muktabisun Noor said the youths belonged to Chhatra Shibir.

Advocacy meeting

Irregularities in allotting houses

PATUAKHALI, Oct 15: The programme was billed for handing over keys of homes built under Ratandil Kalkapur Asrayan Project to homeless people, but it ended without distributing the keys, reports UNB.

States Minister for Textile AKM Jahangir Hossain, who attended the programme as chief guest, asked the authorities to stop distributing the keys when he came to know that genuine candidates have been deprived. He expressed displeasure at the irregularities in allotting houses among the homeless people in Golachipa upazila. The State Minister directed the local administration to revise the list prepared for distributing the homes among 30 families and allocate those to the genuine homeless people.

Project to expand silk farming

KHAGRACHHARI, Oct 15: Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs Ministry has taken up a project to expand silk cultivation in three hill districts, reports UNB.

Silk Board sources said 800 mulberry farmers along with old ones would be included in the scheme for three years. The silk farming scheme started in CHT in 1995. The tenure of the project did not get extension at that time owing to administrative complexity, although its progress was satisfactory. The ministry took up the project realising the prospects of silk cultivation in the hill region, said sources. Under the project the farmers and weavers would be provided training for rearing silkworm and weaving clothes.

Disaster Reduction Day observed

LALMONIRHAT, Oct 15: International Day for Disaster Reduction was observed in the district on Wednesday, reports UNB.

To mark the day, a colourful procession led by DC Ismail Hossain was brought out from Collectorate ground in the town. A good number of students from different schools and representatives from various government and non-government organisations took part in the procession. Later, a seminar was arranged at the auditorium of the district council. Another report from Rangamati says: International Day for Disaster Reduction was also observed in the district. On the occasion, a discussion was arranged at the conference room of the Deputy Commissioner with acting DC Nazrul Islam in the chair.

Primary students receive stipends

RANGAMATI, Oct 15: Government has brought 32,522 primary students in the ongoing Stipend Awarding Programme to arrest their drop-out and ensure regular attendance at 265 free primary schools, reports BSS.

Stipends will be awarded at the rate of Taka 20 per student monthly, reading in Class-I to V, according to the list prepared earlier attaching priority on the poverty of the guardians of the students, official sources said, adding that an amount of Taka 2.5 lakh will be disbursed monthly to run the programme. Stipends will be paid to the guardians of the students on quarterly or half-yearly basis. A number of 12,415 female students were included in the list of 32,522 stipend awarded students, reading in 265 government free primary schools in 28 union parishads in 10 upazilas, officials detailed. Apart from the beneficiaries of this programme, 13,657 more students of 240 primary schools at 20 union parishads were brought under Food for Education Programme, inaugurated by Chairman of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Regional Council, Jyotirindra Bodhipriyo Larma on October 5 last, officials added.



Democracy is now threatened by black money and terrorism. Free, fair and impartial election is not possible in the existing electoral system. To give democracy an institutional shape the present electoral system should be reshaped. Noted freedom fighter and founder of Juranpur Modern Complex Maj Gen (Retd) S A Bhuyian expressed the views while addressing a meeting as the chief guest which was arranged recently by General Bhuyian Supporters' Forum at Manikkandi Madrassa ground under Daudkandi upazila in Comilla district.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer (R&H)
Ferry Division, Nishindara, Bogra

(R&H) Amendment Notice

It is hereby notified for information of all concerned that, this Division's Quotation No. 01/2000-01 memo No. 862 dated 28-09-2000 is, under unavoidable circumstance, held up until further order.

DFP-24435-10/10
G-1800

Md. Mosharrar Hossain
Executive Engineer (R&H)
Ferry Division, Bogra.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer
Public Works Division, Shariatpur

Tender Notice

Tender Notice No-04/2000-2001

1. Tenders in BD Form No 2911 in sealed envelopes are hereby invited from the contractors/contractor firm enlisted through appropriate authority as per financial capability approved only by the Public Works Department for the undermentioned work. Tenders can be submitted on 26-10-2000 till 12-00 noon in all the offices as shown in serial no 5. Tenders will be opened on the day of submitting tender at 12-15 pm in presence of the interested tenderers. The name of the work, name and address of the contractor's firm and the address to whom the tender is to be submitted will have to be mentioned on the envelope.

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| 1. Name of work | : Vide group list. |
| 2. Estimated expenditure | : Taka vide group list. |
| 3. Earnest money | : Vide group list. |
| 4. Time limit for completion of work | : Vide group list. |
| 5. Name of office to sell and receive tender | : All divisions of Public Works Circle. |
| 6. Last date of selling tender | : 25-10-2000 (till office hours). |

7. Ready tender schedule including Bangladesh Form No 2911 including additional terms and conditions can be purchased and seen in the offices as shown in serial no 5 on payment of usual fees for Taka 400/- (four hundred) only for each tender and Taka 25/- (twenty-five) only for BD Form No-2911 (non-refundable in both the cases). Contractor himself/the managing director of the contractor's establishment or his/their representative nominated by an authorisation letter where signature has been attested by the contractor/managing director of the contractor's establishment can purchase tender schedule by producing the original register of enlistment.

8. In order to purchase tender schedule from the Public Works Divisions as shown in the serial no 5 other than Shariatpur Public Works Division, contractor's firms will have to apply at least 3 (three) days before the last date of selling tender. No application will be acceptable after the expiry of that period.

9. Attested copy of certificate of registration of Value Added Tax of the concerns contractors/contractor's establishment and TIN certificate regarding payment of income tax, original money receipt for purchasing tender will have to be submitted with tender.

10. If more than one lowest tenderer is found in the tender then in order to select contractors on the 14th day from the day of submission of tender and if that day is a government holiday, then the following working day, at 11-00 am a lottery will be held in the office chamber of the undersigned. All or his/their nominated representatives are requested to remain present in that lottery. No contact will be made to participate in the lottery later.

11. The undersigned reserves the power to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

Md Salah Uddin
Executive Engineer
Public Works Division, Shariatpur.