

Fish worth Tk 3cr washed away by Chuadanga flood

From Our Correspondent

CHUADANGA, Nov 12: Fish worth over Taka three crores have been washed away from different water bodies in three upazilas during the recent flood.

The three flood affected upazilas are Chuadanga Sadar, Damurhuda and Jibannagar. The water bodies from where the fish have been washed away include river, beel, baor, khal, small and big ponds.

The affected rivers are Mathabhangha, Chitra and Bhatrab, while the affected beels and baors are Uzalpur beel, Shingnagar beel, Begumpur beel, Raisha Beel, Dolka Beel, Bot-tolir beel, Benipur baor, Ekartpur baor and Marupdah baor.

According to Chuadanga District Fisheries Department fish from 725 ponds and waterbodies of Damurhuda upazila, 1,733 ponds and waterbodies of Jibannagar upazila and over 1,000 ponds and water bodies of Chuadanga Sadar upazila have totally been washed away.

Besides, fish worth Taka 75 lakhs have also been washed away due to erosion in 1,470 ponds and waterbodies.

Meanwhile, a total of 4,85,203 people of three upazilas have been affected by the flood.

The total number of families affected by flood are 96,691. A total of over one lakh people have been rendered homeless in the flood. The flood affected three



Flood has damaged sugarcane on a vast tract of land in Chuadanga district recently. ---Star photo

upazilas are Chuadanga Sadar, Damurhuda and Jibannagar. A total of 89,884 houses of the aforesaid upazilas have been totally damaged and 49,297 houses partly damaged. A total of 106 kilometre pucca roads, 493 kilometre kutcha roads, 20 cul-

vert-bridges and 125 primary school buildings have been damaged. Standing crops on over 25,527 hectares have been totally damaged and standing crops on over 34,000 hectares have been damaged partly.

Double-murder case Nine get life term in Pirojpur

PIROJPUR, Nov 12: A court here on Wednesday sentenced nine people to life imprisonment in a double-murder case, reports UNB.

Additional District and Sessions Judge M Anil Haque also fined the convicts Tk 10,000 each, in default, to suffer one year more RI.

The convicts are Shaheen, Rafique, Abdus Salam Khan, Ilias, Dulal, Kamal, Khokon, Montu Khan and Jabbar. The court, however, acquitted Gani Khan as he was not proved guilty.

According to the prosecution, the accused killed Abu Saleh, 13, and Abu Hanifa, 10, sons of Latif Khan of village Udaytara Burichar in Mathbaria upazila on November 26, 1994, following a land dispute.

30 injured as villagers clash in Munshiganj

MUNSHIGANJ, Nov 12: At least 30 people were injured, nine of them by bullets, in a clash between two rival groups of villagers at village Tetwitata in Gazirga upazila on Wednesday night, reports UNB.

Six of the nine bullet-injured Sakhina Begum, Hazrat Ali, Nazrul, Kamal, Jewel and Kanu were sent to Dhaka. Their condition was stated to be critical. Others were taken to different hospitals and clinics.

Jute growers deprived of fair prices

RANGPUR, Nov 12: Jute growers of the district are not getting fair prices of their produce in different markets due to shortage of buyers, reports UNB.

Market sources said in the absence of buyers a section of middlemen are purchasing jute at throwaway prices, which is below the cost of production. In the absence of marketing facilities the growers said they are forced to hand over their produce to the brokers at nominal prices.

Jute is being sold between Tk 280 and Tk 320 per maund according to the quality in the local markets. Farmers said the cost of per maund jute including labour, fertiliser, seeds and har-

vesting was about Tk 400. But they are compelled to sell the produce below cost of production to maintain their families.

The local jute traders said they are yet to start purchasing jute in the current season due to shortage of working capital as they are not getting payment of jute sold to different mills last year.

According to a source said five mills owe Tk 2.69 crore to the traders of the town alone. Of the amount, UMC Jute Mills owe Tk 92 lakh, Adamjee Jute Mills Tk 65 lakh, Amin Jute Mills Tk 40 lakh, Rajshahi Jute Mills Tk 32 lakh and Qawmi Jute Mills Tk 40 lakh.

The source said jute is being smuggled out to India due to its

low price in the country and it is being sold in India between Rs 350 and Rs 420 per maund.

The regional director of jute here, however, claimed that Adamjee, Amin, UMC, Qawmi, Latif Bawani, Peoples' and Rajshahi Jute Mills have already started purchasing jute from the markets.

He said jute was cultivated on 9,900 hectares of land against the target of 15,600 hectares in eight upazilas of the district in the current season.

The cultivation target was not achieved as farmers lost interest due to lack of fair price and marketing facilities.

Tobacco factory workers exposed to lung disease in Kurigram

KURIGRAM, Nov 12: The unhygienic condition of the tobacco factories in the northern districts has become a main cause of various diseases, including tuberculosis, asthma and ulcer, for the workers, reports UNB.

A number of the infected workers became paralysed and have been fighting with deaths.

Official sources said there were over 100-tobacco industries in 16 northern districts, including two in Kurigram.

Besides, 200 other factories, running as cottage industries, are marketing bidi and cigarettes in the market violating the Factory Act.

Factory sources said over one-lakh workers, half of them women and children, are engaged in these factories.

Concerned sources said following the intake of maleficent elements of tobacco with breathing about 30,000 workers afflicted with different diseases, including

lung diseases.

According to Factory Act, health check-up once in every three months is a mandatory in the factories having more than 10 workers. But most of the factories do not follow the act.

According to Sections 11 and 19 of the Act, the chief inspector of the concerned department could form a medical team for medical check-up of the workers and could force the owners to do that.

Kuakata 'Rash Mela' attracts thousands

From Aroop Talukdar

BARISAL, Nov 12: The four-day long 'Rash Mela' or 'Sagar Mela', one of the biggest religious festival of the Hindu-community ended at the southern sea-resort of Kuakata recently with great enthusiasm and colourful festivity.

The fair was held in full moon. Thousands of people of all walks of life from different districts of the country came to Kuakata, during this fair. Some foreign tourists also came here to observe the 'Rash Mela' and enjoy the unique natural beauty of the sea resort. The holy fair began on November 8 and ended on November 11. A large number of Hindus performed 'holy bath' in the sea at Kuakata in the morning of the concluding day on Nov 11.

Several thousands of people participated in the fair along the 18-kilometre long Kuakata sea beach, some 22 kilometres away from the Kalapara upazila head-quarters in Patuakhali district.

During fair time, people usually come here every year to enjoy the fair as well as the heavenly

natural beauty of Kuakata sea shore where sunrise and sunset scenes are visible from the same place. It is the main attraction of tourists.

Besides the natural beauty of the sea-shore, a vast coconut garden along the shore and 'Gangamati reserve forest' two kilometres away from the sea beach also attract the tourists.

Tourists are also attracted to see the 37 maunds heavy 'Buddha image', the largest Buddha image in the Indo-Bangla-Pak sub-continent. Local 'Rakhain' tribal culture also attracts the tourists.

Recently Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation (BPC) has built a holiday home complex and a rest house was built by Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) for the tourists. To provide more facilities to the tourists different projects are also taken up.

Now Kuakata has been turned into a very attractive and popular sea-resorts for the tourists where lakhs of tourists from home and abroad visit every year.

Pottery industry faces ruin

From Our Correspondent

NETRAKONA, Nov 12: Pottery industry is on verge of ruination in five districts.

The districts are Netrakona, Kishoreganj, Sherpur, Jamalpur and Mymensingh.

This traditional small industry is on verge of extinction for want of proper patronage. Hundreds of families involved in this industry for generations together find it difficult to continue. Many potters have already given up the profession, while others are thinking to give up.

Once this profession was a lucrative one. Thousands of people were engaged in making earthen jars, plates, small cauldrons, toys and various other things to earn their living.

When contacted, the potters in different areas of greater Mymensingh told this correspon-

dent that prices of earth, clay, dice colour, fuel and other necessary things have increased many times and went beyond the purchasing capacity of them. On the other hand, prices and demand for the articles produced by them have been falling gradually giving rise to despair among the potters.

The potters added that they cannot compete with their products in the markets due to various problems.

Potters have no capital for running their industry. They have to borrow money from the local money lenders at high rates of interests.

It is unofficially gathered that a total of 100 potter families are living in Netrakona, 150 in Kishoreganj, 130 in Sherpur, 80 in Jamalpur and 170 families in Mymensingh district.

Water scarcity in Jessore

JESSORE, Nov 12: Acute scarcity of safe drinking water has been prevailing here following the recent devastating flood that damaged some 58,832 tubewells in five upazilas, reports UNB.

Some 463 villages, out of total 1,047, in five upazilas - Sharsha, Monirampur, Keshabpur, Jhikargachha and Chowgachha were submerged by floodwaters.

There were 23,051 shallow and deep tubewells in Sharsha upazila while 18,202 in Jhikargachha, 9,430 in Chowgachha, 4,105 in Monirampur and 4,044 tubewells in Keshabpur upazilas.

Floods have also damaged various parts of these tubewells incurring a loss of Tk 20.60 lakhs.

In a bid to supply safe drinking water to the people, Public Health Engineering Department has already raised the heights of 138 tubewells.

Besides, it temporarily installed 154 more tubewells at different relief centres here to ensure safe drinking water for the flood-hit people.

Meanwhile, some 2,366 tubewells were reinstated and 5,480 sanitised with bleaching powder in five upazilas.

An executive engineer told that Taka 7.20 crore rehabilitation project has been sent to the chief engineer for approval.

Under the project some 288 tubewells, 955 deep tubewells, 125 Tara-pumps and 6,500 slabs of sanitary latrines would be installed.

News snaps

Baby sold for Tk 200!

MANIKGANJ, Nov 12: A five-month old baby was sold for Tk 200 only at village Ukiara in Sadar upazila here Sunday, reports UNB. Locals said the drug addicted Marfat Ali, 25, of the village sold his fifth wife's girl child 'Mou' to his co-villager Tamu driver for buying drugs. The act of the unscrupulous father has created sensation in the village.

Boy killed in mine explosion

BANDARBAN, Nov 12: One teenage boy was killed in a mine explosion near Walidong hill along Bangladesh-Myanmar border under Naikhangchhari upazila here on Wednesday evening, reports BSS.

Police recovered the body of the ill-fated boy identified as Ahmed Sharif, 13, son of Jabbar Mulluk, a wood cutter of Chakbetiya under Ukiya thana, police said. The victim met the tragic incident when he went to collect bamboo at no man's land, eyewitnesses said. As he did not return home till night police and local people conducted a search for his whereabouts. After vigorous search, police recovered the body with marks of severe injuries. During the last one decade over 20 people have so far died, hundred others were injured and unspecified number of cattleheads were killed, in mine explosion that reportedly planted in the bordering areas by Myanmar Nasaka Bahini, official sources said.

Loan for winter crop farming

KISHOREGANJ, Nov 12: Janata Bank will disburse Tk 6.16 crore as loan under its winter crop cultivation programme this season, reports UNB.

The bank will disburse the loan through its Kishoreganj, Katiadi, Itna, Mithamain, Ghara Bazaar, Katkhal, Bhairab Bazaar, Bangalpara, Laxmipur, Sarachar, Kuliachar and Manikkhal branches. The distribution will continue till March next. Of the total loan, Tk 6 crore has been earmarked for Boro cultivation, Tk 10 lakh for wheat, Tk 2 lakh for potato and mustard seeds, Tk 2 lakh for groundnut and Tk 1 lakh each for sugarcane and other winter vegetables.

Suspension

MANIKGANJ, Nov 12: Eleven leaders and workers of local Awami League and its front organisations have been suspended for three months for violating the party discipline, reports UNB.

The decision was taken at an emergency meeting of the district Awami League on Wednesday with its president Moslemuddin Khan in the chair. Suspended leaders and workers are Shahidul Islam Pullock, AFM Sultanul Azam Apple, Tiger Munir, Lablu, Masud and Akhter, Abdur Razzaq, Swapan, Bashar, Shipon and Khaled.

Woman traffickers arrested

RAJBARI, Nov 12: Three members of an organised gang of woman traffickers were caught red-handed as they tried to sell a teenage girl from Narayanganj at Daulatdia warehouse at Tk one lakh Wednesday, reports UNB.

Police said Rafiq Mondal, 35, Ayub Ali, 20, and Khodeza Begum were arrested while they were selling Halima Khatun, 14, of village Kachpur in Sonargaon upazila to the brothel. Halima was lured into their trap with a promise of job. A case was filed with local police.

Rectified spirit recovered

SHARIATPUR, Nov 12: Bhedarganj Thana Police in a raid recovered 50 bottles of rectified spirit from Ramwadrupur area in the Bhedarganj Upazila on Wednesday, reports BSS.

Acting on a tip-off, police rushed to the area, intercepted a goods laden truck and after a search recovered the bottles.

Housewife strangled

BOGRA, Nov 12: A young housewife was allegedly strangled to death at her husband's house at Krishnapur village in Sadar upazila early on Thursday, reports UNB.

The victim was identified as Rekha, 20, daughter of Abul Hossain of Brindabanpara in the town, Rekha, a mother of a child and also an expectant mother, was believed to have been killed by her in-laws over family feud. They went into hiding soon after the incident. Police recovered the body and sent to the hospital morgue for autopsy.

BCL-BNP clash leaves 5 hurt

BOGRA, Nov 12: Activists of ruling party student wing Chhatra League and opposition BNP backed Chhatra Dal clashed on Bogra Government Azizul Haque College campus on Thursday leaving five students injured, reports UNB.

Police said the trouble ensued at noon when the supporters of the two rival groups locked into clashes over a brawl between two activists of the rival organisations. During the trouble, both sides exploded at least 20 cocktails. Four of the injured were SM Tarik, 18, Liakat Ali, 20 and Amimul Islam Dablu, 28, of Chhatra League and Chhatra Dal leader Samrat, 21. Later, police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control.



Maj Gen (Retd) S A Bhuiyan addressing recently a meeting organised by General Bhuiyan Supporters' Forum at Mollakandi Lal Mia Pilot High School under Daudkandi upazila in Comilla district.

A success story of Social Welfare Department

KISHOREGANJ, Nov 12: Many poor farmers have dazzled the eyes of creditors by changing their lot. And more and more are showing how to earn a decent living thanks to Social Welfare Department for providing them interest-free loan, reports UNB.

Apart from providing allowances to elderly people and distressed women, the government is also providing interest-free loan to farmers in 13 upazilas through the Social Welfare Department.

Involvement of hundreds of people, including women, in various small income-generating activities indicates that these programmes have been able to engender enthusiasm among the poor people.

Official sources said Social Welfare Department under its Palli Samaj Seba Karmasuchi (Rural Social Welfare Programme) launched interest-free loan distribution programme in 19 upazilas of 19 districts in 1974.

Encouraged by its success, the government expanded the programme to 400 upazilas in 1977 and 461 upazilas in 1996. The Social Welfare Department is now carrying out the programme in 768

villages of 13 upazilas.

Under the programme, the department distributes interest-free loans among the people living below the poverty line. Its programmes also include adult education, health tips, mother and child healthcare and afforestation.

It has so far disbursed loan amounting to Tk 3.3 crore among 1,49,705 people till September 2000. Its recovery rate is 92 per cent. Field workers of the department closely observe how the people use their borrowed money.

Prior to disbursing loan, the department divides the borrowers into three categories: A, B and C. The families whose maximum per capita income is Tk 2350 are placed in category A while those of Tk 2350-3400 in group B and those of Tk 3400 in group C.

It forms a group of 9-15 people from categories A and B, and then issues the group members loans against their proposed projects.

It gives Tk 2,000 to maximum Tk 5,000 as interest-free loan to a male or a female per family and the debtors have to pay 10 per cent as

service charge, which is ultimately deposited into their joint fund. When the fund exceeds Tk 50,000, the money is distributed among the members as loan.

Upon repayment of their loans, the group members have to deposit a certain amount of money from their earnings as monthly savings.

According to government statistics, over 40 per cent people here are living below the poverty line and most of them are agriculture labourers and rickshaw-pullers.

Although different NGOs have small credit programmes, villagers prefer taking loan from the department because the interest rates of NGOs are high.

The interest-free loan aside, the department has also been providing allowance to 10 elderly but distressed people, including five females, in each ward since April 1998 in addition to allowances to five widows and women, who are divorced, since September 1999.

Besides, the department imparted training to 3,555 people on tailoring, 21,000 people on vaccination and 2,570 on primary healthcare.

Bangladesh Open University		
Gazipur-1705 Examination Division		
MBA Examination Time Table-001 Term		
Date	9:30 am - 12:30 pm	2:30 pm - 5:30 pm
01/12/2000 Friday	Management Accounting (MBA 3309)	-
08/12/2000 Friday	Operations Management (MBA 4315)	-
15/12/2000 Friday	Macroeconomics (MBA 3312)	-
05/01/2001 Friday	Principles of Management (MBA 1301)	Management Information System (MBA 4314)
12/01/2001 Friday	Principles of Marketing (MBA 1302)	Marketing Management (MBA 3310)
19/01/2001 Friday	Financial Accounting (MBA 1303)	Fundamentals of Financial Management (MBA 3311)
26/01/2001 Friday	Microeconomics (MBA 1304)	Financial Management & Policy (MBA 5340)
02/02/2001 Friday	Human Resource Management (MBA 3313)	Entrepreneurship Development (MBA 5350)
Md Wahiduzzaman Controller of Examination		

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Department of Supply and Inspection
Invitation of Tender

The following tenders are invited by the Department of Supply and Inspection. All the registered firms of this Department in the relevant group and other well established firm subject to submission of application well in advance and if considered fit by the authority.

Sl No	Tender No & Nature	Short description of stores	Value of tender set (non-refundable)	Last date & time for submission of tender
1.	S-8/Engg-I/Local/68/2000-2001 Dated 2-11-2000	Mobile Cinema Van	Tk. 15,400/-	On 27-11-2000 at 11 AM

NB: No tender will be sold on the date of submission of tender. Tenders obtainable from:

- Department of Supply & Inspection, 48, Motijheel C/A (4th fl), Dhaka.
- Department of Supply & Inspection (Shipping), CGO Building, Agrabad, Chittagong.
- Department of Supply & Inspection (Shipping), 51, Farazipara Road, Khulna.
- Place for submission of tender: Department of Supply & Inspection (4th floor), 48, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.

DPP-26743-5/11
G-1990

Feroz Ahmed Khan
Dept of Sup. & Inspection

The Institute of Bankers, Bangladesh
Jatiya Scout Bhaban (8th Floor)
70/1, Inner Circular Road, Kakrail, Dhaka-1000
Tel. 831254, 837237, 831605

Notice of the 27th Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Twenty-Seventh Annual General Meeting of the Institute will be held on Monday, the 27th November, 2000 at 4.00 PM in the auditorium of Pubali Bank Ltd., Head Office (13th Floor), 26, Dilkusha Commercial Area, Dhaka to transact the following business:

- To confirm the minutes and business transacted at the 26th Annual General Meeting of the Institute held on 8th December 1999.
- To consider and approve the Annual Report and the Audited Accounts of the Institute for the year 1999.
- To appoint Auditor for the year ended the 31st December, 2000.
- To transact any other business with the permission of the Chair.

Members are requested to attend the meeting.

By order of the Council
Dhaka, the 9th November, 2000. **Hari Narayan Majumder**
Secretary General

[N.B. No member will be issued any invitation letter individually. Copies of the Annual Report and the Audited Statement of Accounts will be supplied in the meeting. However, members interested to see the said report and the statement may collect copies of the same from the office of the Institute from the 19th November, 2000 during office hours through personal contact.]

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