

AMON HARVEST BEGINS IN CHT

Over 12,000 tonne less output feared

JASIM MAJUMDER, *Khagrachhari*

Amon yield in three hill districts of Khagrachhari, Rangamati and Bandarban may miss the target by 12,280 tonne as the recurrent floods damaged paddy fields on 4,634 hectares of land.

However, starting of Amon harvest in different areas in Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) comprising the three districts has brought relief of poor/humia people.

A total of 47,067 hectares of land was brought under Amon cultivation in CHT this year with a production target of 1.25 lakh tonnes of rice (in average 2.65 tonne per hectare), Agriculture Extension Department (AED) sources said.

In Khagrachhari, the production target in 26,355 hectares of land was 69,840.75 tonnes of rice but the recent floods damaged 3,490.05 tonnes of Amon paddy in 1,317 hectares of field in the dis-

trict, Deputy Director of Khagrachhari AED TM Monjurul Islam said.

Deputy Director of Rangamati AED Mohammad Laichh Uddin said they had a production target of 27,864.75 tonnes in 10,515 hectares of land in the district but they fear the production will be less by 8,790.05 tonnes as recent floods damaged Amon paddy in 3,317 hectares.

Amon production in Bandarban district is quite well despite the damage caused by floods, the DD of Bandarban AED said.

Bandarban AED sub-assistant agriculture officer, Babotosh Chakrabarti, said they expect to get targeted 27,825 tonnes of rice in 10,500 hectares of land.

Early varieties of BRRI-33, BRRI-11 and BRRI-32 paddy, cultivated on most of the usable lands in the region, are being harvested now, AED sources said, adding that

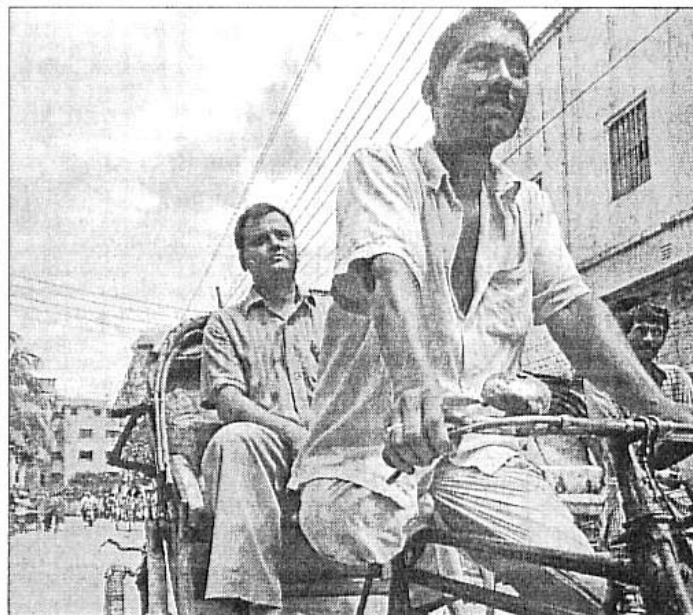
harvest in CHT region will complete within a few days.

There is not much chita (sterile paddy sheaf) this year, said farmers Aunsha Marma from Lakpaingang, Hashem Ali from Gachhabil under Manikchhari upazila in Khagrachhari district.

The Daily Star correspondent saw sale of huge quantities of rice in Manikchhari and Khagrachhari Sadar wholesale markets. The prices of rice varied between Tk 400 to 450 per mound (one mound = 40 kg). Farmers said the price rates are 'reasonable'.

Meanwhile, at least 1.5 lakh Amon farmers have been affected due to pest attack following floods that hit the area thrice while attack of rats also caused harm to paddy cultivated on hills.

Several farmers said they are even worried about repaying the loan that they took for cultivating Amon.



Mozammel Hossain Babul, once pulling rickshaw with one leg, *left*, poses with Apex Club executives in front of his shop arranged by the club at village Kalyanpur in Mymensingh Sadar upazila.

A little help eases his hardship

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Mymensingh*

Mozammel Hossain Babul will no longer have to pedal rickshaw with one leg as he has got a grocery shop, thanks to the generosity of Apex Bangladesh Foundation (ABF).

Apparently a photograph published in The Daily Star on August 28 this year has meant a blessing for Babul, 37, who lost a leg in an accident in Dhaka in 1995.

ABF contributed Tk 30,000 for Babul to run a grocery shop to be self-reliant at his village Kallayan Pur in Sadar Upazila here.

After Babul got his leg injuries in the accident, he had to stay at Orthopaedic Hospital for over three months and one of his legs was amputated, he said. But as the lone bread earner of his four-member family, he had to start pulling rickshaw again in Dhaka.

Babul's photo published in The Daily Star moved Shah Kamal Uddin, a former chairman of ABF. He along with other executives of ABF decided to help Babul earn a better living with honour. With the donation of Tk 30,000 from ABF Babul started a grocery shop at his village home on Sunday.

ABF executives and officials were present as the shop was opened.

"I will try my best to change my economic condition with the support from ABF," said Babul, a father of two children.

Reception to freedom fighters

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Khagrachhari*

A reception was accorded to the freedom fighters here yesterday.

Khagrachhari Hill District Council (KHDC) accorded the reception at its conference hall here. (KHDC) chairman Monindra Lal Tripura was present as chief guest.

In his address, he said efforts are underway for settlement of 650 families of freedom fighters in the hill district to improve their socio-economic condition within three years.

Among others, freedom fighters Mongsathowai Chowdhury, Ronovikrom Tripura and Dost Muhammad Chowdhury Mansur Ahmed addressed.

EROSION, FLOOD

'Build pucca dam on western bank of Jamuna'

GOLAM MOSTAFA JIBON, *Sirajganj*

People in nine upazilas here urged the government to build a pucca embankment on the western bank of the Jamuna stretching from Sirajganj town to Kazipur upazila for protecting lives and property from the scourge of erosion and flood.

The upazilas are Sirajganj Sadar, Belkuchi, Chowhali, Kamarkhanda, Shahzadpur, Ullapara, Raiganj, Tarash and Kazipur.

People ventilated their sufferings and expressed their long-felt demand to this correspondent during his seven-day visit to the erosion and flood-affected areas recently.

During the period, this correspondent talked to people from all

walks of life including teachers, rickshaw pullers, traders, government and non-government officials.

At least 7 lakh people of the nine upazilas were affected badly by recurring flood this year. Thousands of people in the area are still homeless and workless. They are passing days in misery either half-fed or ill-fed, Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) officials said.

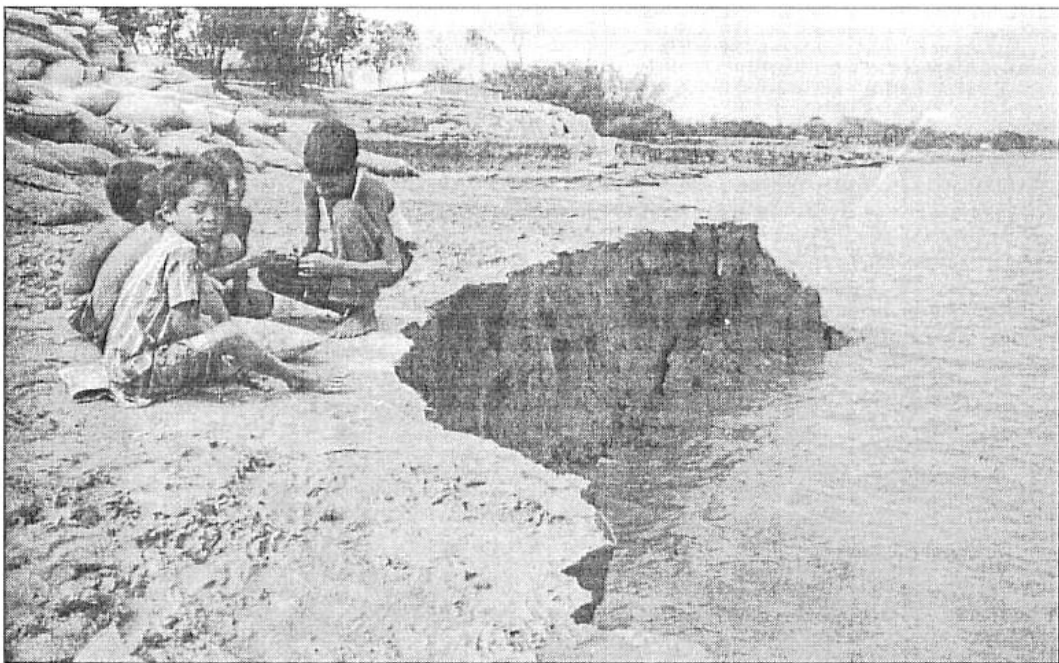
Besides, after recession of floodwater, continuous river erosion in the area turned them pauper.

As per statistics of BWDB and district administration, at least 1,000 homesteads and 400 hectares of croplands of five upazilas like Kazipur, Sirajganj Sadar, Belkuchi, Shahzadpur and Chowhali

devoured in the river last week as the erosion took a serious turn in the winter.

Affected people in the area demanded of the government to start work for a permanent dam in the beginning of the winter season and finish work before the rainy season.

BWDB sources said because of erosion and flood most portion of the 78.89-kilometre flood control embankment stretching from Verakhola of Shahzadpur to Kazipur were damaged. This year, crops on a vast tract of land, property, roads, bridges, culverts and establishments damaged thrice due to recurrent flood in nine upazilas in the district. Of them, the worst affected areas are Kazipur, Sirajganj Sadar, Belkuchi, Chowhali and Shahzadpur upazila.



While the Jamuna continues eroding its bank at Khokshabari in Sirajganj, children, unaware of the danger, play on the brink of devoured land.

Move to combat bird flu

2 union livestock service centres open in Kurigram for intensive vaccination of poultry birds

STAR NATIONAL DESK

A laudable initiative has been undertaken under joint initiative of government and NGO along with the local communities for protection of poultry birds from bird flu through intensive vaccination, says a press release.

Under its FoSHoL Project,

ActionAid Bangladesh, an international NGO, in joint collaboration with the government's Livestock Department, Union Parishad (UP) and the communities concerned, has set up two union livestock service centres in Sadar and Ulipur upazilas in Kurigram district.

District livestock officer (DLO)

Dr A M Shafiuzzaman of the Directorate of Livestock Services (DLS), Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, inaugurated the centres as chief guest at Bhogdanga Union Parishad (UP) Bhaban in Kurigram Sadar and Dharonibari UP Bhaban in Ulipur. Sayed Kutub, upzila nirbahi officer (UNO) was present as special guest.

ZIBIKA executive director Manik Chowdhury presided both the events organised by FoSHoL-ZIBIKA under FoSHoL Project.

Lutfun Nahar, associate coordinator, FoSHoL-ActionAid, Dipak Ranjan Roy, upazila livestock officer (ULO), Kurigram Sadar, Dr Abdul Aziz, ULO, Ulipur, UP chairmen, FoSHoL-ZIBIKA Sadar and Ulipur team members, paravets, vaccinators and farmers were present on both the occasions.

Kabir Mallik of FoSHoL-ActionAid has been coordinating the overall activities of the project under which 18 service centers will be established.



Government officials, representatives of local government institutions, ActionAid officials and villagers at the opening ceremony of a livestock service centre in Dharonibari union in Ulipur upazila, Kurigram.



PHOTO: STAR



ASIAN UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN

Vacancy Announcement

Director of Student Affairs: 1 Position

Will create policies, programs, and services that support the mission of the Access Academy, foster student development, and promote involvement in campus life. Will also ensure counseling and that other student-focused programs are provided. Will organize social events and oversee student organizations.

Education and Experience

Bachelor's degree with at least five years of experience in the field of Student Affairs or a related field.

Administrative Coordinator for Access Academy: 1 Position

Will assist the Executive Director (ED) of the Access Academy and the Executive Director of the Office for Recruitment and Admissions by providing critical, high-level support to enable the Executive Directors to optimize their time. This individual will oversee the ED's scheduling, develop internal and external communications, and serve as a resource both within the organization and outside it.

Education and Experience

Bachelor's degree in any field from a recognized University. Fluency in English and Bangla (or another Asian language), computer literacy, including word processing in English is essential. Minimum 7 years experience in a similar capacity at a reputable organization.

Receptionist: 1 Position

Attend all visitors at the front Information desk. Serve as receptionist or information clerk; determine purpose of contact; provide general information and assist in preparation of forms; direct individuals to proper destination; receive and distribute messages; schedule and/or make appointments as necessary; process and distribute mail according to established procedures; prepare material for mailing

Education and Experience

Bachelors from a recognized University (may be relaxed for exceptional candidates). Fluency in English and Bangla, and computer skills. Minimum 3 years' experience in a similar role at a reputable organization.

Librarian: 1 Position

Perform all professional functions in managing a library in an educational institution. Duties will include developing a plan to provide library services to the Access Academy and Asian University for Women. Will also direct operations and activities of the library, and help select/assist in the selection and evaluation of library materials and equipment.

Education and Experience

Masters in Library Science from a recognized University. Fluency in English and Bangla, with computer literacy is essential. Minimum 5 years' experience in a similar position at a recognised organization

Network Manager (IT): 1 Position

Ensure the efficient operation of university-wide computer network, plan and implement its continuous development, provide IT services for both teachers and students both on campus and beyond. Will also connect and manage computer equipments to the network for purposes of the University, authorise server connections with relevant devices to the network; manage the acquisition, installation, and maintenance of the organization's local area and wide area network; assess and recommend new products and services to senior management; manage LAN/WAN performance and security; will propose and implement policies and procedures for LAN/WAN usage throughout the university.

Education and Experience

Good degree in Computer Science from a recognized university; 3 years' relevant network experience, and training in CCNA or equivalent.

Research Assistant: 1 person

Will assist faculty with research in education, maintain liaison with education institutions, arrange and carry out interviews with, and administer questionnaires to adult learners; maintain files and records, both manually and on computer; write up reports of research findings, and perform other occasional duties related to the research project, as and when assigned by the Research Co-ordinators.

Education and Experience

Bachelors Degree in Humanities/ Social or Natural sciences from a recognized Institution. Fluency in English and Bangla and computer literacy essential. Should possess good interpersonal and communication skills with ability to work in a team and also use own initiative. Minimum 3 years experience in a similar role at a reputable organization.

Security Officer

Representative Duties include enforcing procedural rules and regulations. Ensures the safety of staff, visitors, and property. Maintains security and safety for assigned area. The selected candidate will develop and maintain SOP for safety including fire, flood, natural calamity, earthquake, coordinate, supervise fire and safety drills, supervise and coordinate security details and duties of security personnel hired for physical security of the site. Will assist the Senior Adviser as and when required.

Education and Experience

Bachelors degree from a recognized university (may be relaxed in case of outstanding candidates); fluency in English and Bangla in speech and writing, computer skills at a reasonable level of proficiency, with good interpersonal skills. Ten years' commissioned service in the army, or as class one service in police service.

Access Academy Supervisor - cum - Housekeeper

Will be responsible for housekeeping, maintenance of cleanliness and hygiene of the entire academy and food served therein; liaise with food suppliers and other ancillary services; ensure hygiene and nutritional quality of food; assign and supervise cleaning personnel's duties, inspect their work; investigate complaints about housekeeping service and equipments, and take necessary action; coordinate with medical staff on health-related matters; look after equipments/ furniture/ linen etc.; monitor and maintain register of students' whereabouts; take periodic inventory, recommend purchase of housekeeping supplies and equipment, train new employees, recommend dismissals.

Education and Experience

Bachelors Degree from a recognized Institution (may be relaxed in case of outstanding candidates). Fluency in English preferred. Minimum 7 years' experience in similar role at residential educational Institution.

Nurse: 2 Positions

Perform all nursing and other duties assigned by Superintendent; carry out routine investigations; monitor pulse, blood pressure and temperature; maintain health records of all students, resident faculty and staff. Should be able to deal independently with patients but must be able to recognize situations when further medical attention is required.

Prepare patient-care plan; respond quickly to emergencies; observe, record condition of patient; check and administer drugs and injections; assist with evaluation; maintain professional ethics relating to consent and confidentiality of patients' records.

Education and Experience

Registered Nurse with degree from a recognized nursing institution. Fluency in English is preferred. Minimum 7 years' nursing experience in a residential educational organisation.

Office Help: 2 Positions

Will perform day-to-day duties and any other work assigned. Must be SSC-qualified with some knowledge of English. Must be able to ride bicycle. Experience: Minimum 3 years in an office.

Instructor for Self-Defence & Physical Education: 1 position

Female candidates only

Will teach self-defence techniques and provide physical education to large number of students of 17 to 25 years; design self-defence programs for preventing unsolicited attentions or physical violence. Will be able to formulate and implement a curriculum directed at countering violence against women and reducing risks to personal safety

Will work closely with faculty and staff for a safe and supportive environment for the AUW campus, monitor and oversee campus security arrangements.

EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION

Bachelors degree, with minimum of 5 to 7 years of work experience.

Cook

Will procure, supervise, prepare and cook meals, maintain records of all kitchen and dining equipment and of kitchen store; ensure cleanliness and hygiene of kitchen area; maintain discipline in kitchen.

Will cook meals, supervise kitchen-help staff, kitchen cleanliness and cleaning of used equipment; maintain good standard of hygiene in kitchen; coordinate with organization responsible for service of meal, train new staff in cooking and method of work in kitchen provide health and safety training.

EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION

Must be educated to Class VIII, with some knowledge in English; minimum 7 years' experience in reputed organisation.

Kitchen Help: 4 positions

Work in the kitchen under the cook's direction, assist in procurement of food etc., maintain cleanliness and hygiene of kitchen and dining area. Female candidates only.

Cleaning Staff: 4 Positions

Female candidates only. Maintain cleanliness and hygiene of the entire campus.

Driver: 2 Positions

Do all tasks relating to transporting passengers in AUW vehicles. Must be able to operate cars, SUVs, and minibuses efficiently; help passengers to board and exit from vehicles; load/unload luggage of any kind; inspect vehicles in details for proper functioning of headlights, indicators, brake and brake lights, air-conditioning, warning lights, mirror adjustment, tire pressure, windshield wipers to identify vehicle road worthiness regularly; maintain cleanliness and adequate fuel. May have to perform other duties as and when necessary.

EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION

Must have valid driving licence; work flexible hours; minimum 26 years old. Some knowledge of English essential. Minimum 8 years driving experience. Reference from previous employer essential.

Medical Officer

A part-time position for an MO to check the health and advise on health-related matters and needs of students, faculty and all staff; will advise on food, nutrition and hygiene in AUW. Must make ONE visit per WEEK to Access Academy, but be on emergency call 24/7.

EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION

Registered medical practitioner with at least 10 years experience in general medicine.

RESIDENT FACULTY: 1 POSITION

Will report to the Vice-Chancellor and work closely with the Office for Student Affairs in administration of Access Academy Residence, and the formulation and implementation of Residence policies.

Will actively lead a team of Residence staff and student leaders in management and operation of Residence in budgeting and financial management, overseeing of student activities and welfare, maintenance of Residence standards and discipline, and fostering of a strong affiliation to AUW.

Will be responsible for everything in connection with the Residence a.g. security, discipline, cleanliness, orderliness, etc., with the assistance of the Residence staff. Will advise student committees, proactively help committees excel, i.e. contribute ideas, initiate new activities, etc. Will be required to live in the Residence for the duration of appointment. The Rf will get free 3-bedroom apartment in the Residence, in lieu of payment, for services rendered.

Detailed information/job descriptions for each of these positions are available at www.asian-university.org

Please send your resume with a cover letter summarizing your case for being considered for this position. Please mention the job title on the cover letter.

Applications should be sent to the following address NO LATER than January 18, 2008

Women are encouraged to apply for all positions.

Asian University for Women

Road 2, House # 7,
Khulshi Hills (North), Chittagong

www.asian-university.org

EID MUBARAK	
ANJUMAN MUFIDUL ISLAM	
HEAD OFFICE: S.S.K.Das Road Gandaria, Dhaka. Phone: 7410786, 7411660	SERVICE CENTRE: 42, Anjuman Mufidul Islam Road Kakrail, Dhaka-1000. Phone: 9336611, FAX: 9355755
Please donate your Korbani-Hide or equivalent cash to Anjuman Mufidul Islam and thus come forward to help the helpless, orphan and distressed people.	
Please note that the Korbani-Hide or equivalent cash may be handed over to our Head Office, the Service Centre at Kakrail, the temporarily established Sub-centres or to the nearby Mobile-Vans to Anjuman Mufidul Islam, but must against a cash receipt from the office concerned.	
Besides, our people can collect the Hide or Cash from your home on receipt of message from your end. Any kind of help from you would be added to our strength of Service. Thank you.	
Finally, Anjuman Mufidul Islam's main object is to provide humanitarian service to the poor and needy.	