



Haripur flood shelter in Sundarganj upazila of Gaibandha, right, a government primary school in Lohagara upazila of Narail face the onslaught of the Teesta and Madhumoti as erosion by the rivers has taken a serious turn in the areas.

Erosion by Teesta, Modhumoti Rivers

Flood shelter, school in Narail, Gaibandha under threat

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

Haripur flood shelter at Ujan Tewra point in Sundarganj upazila is now under serious threat of erosion by the River Teesta as a portion of the shelter has already gone into the river, affecting some fami-

Bangladesh donor agency and local NGO Akota built the shelter on five bighas of land with the capacity of

accommodating 150 families of flood-hit victims. It has 17 large scale rooms.

For the last few days, local people tried to stop the erosion by erecting bamboo spars but failed, threatening the flood shelter centre, said Bidhut Kumar Dev Sarma, a member of Haripur Union Parishad.

In 2005, Practical Action are not taken immediately to thwart the erosion, the shelter centre may go into Mozherul Islam, chairman correspondent.

of the union parishad. Lutfar Rahman, executive

director of Akota, said we already wrote to the donor agency for fund to check the erosion. We informed the higher

authorities about the matter, said Upazila Nirbahi Officer Abu Rafa Md Arif. Away in Narail, a govern-

If permanent measures ment primary school in Lohagra upazila of the district is now under threat of erosion by the River the river anytime, said Modhumoti, reports our

The building of T-Korgati Government Primary ter. School may go into the river anytime if necessary measures are not taken immediately to stop the onslaught,

The mighty Modhumoti already devoured the toilet, tube-well and playground of the school, much to the worry of 400 kids, he said.

said Headmaster Md

Asaduzaman Mollah.

Despite repeated pleas, the authorities are yet to take any steps to control the come.

erosion, said the headmas-

During a recent visit, this correspondent found many villagers nearby the school areas leaving their homesteads for safer places in fear of further erosion.

Contacted, Amito Kumar Das, deputy divisional engineer of local Water Development Board (WDB), said we wrote to the higher authorities for fund to stop the erosion but no response yet to

Husband, wife 'commit suicide' in Natore

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

The bodies of a couple were found hanging from the ceiling of their bedroom in Singra upazila of the district yesterday morning. The deceased are

Ashraful Islam, 30, and his wife Madina Begum, 23, of Akhpara Serkul village in the upazila. Nazrul Islam, officer-in-

charge (investigation) of Singra Police Station, said the couple's seven-year-old son Abdul Motin went to sleep with his grandfather last night.

In the morning, Motin knocked at the door of his parents' bedroom, but nobody responded from Oman his family members inside.

door and found the bodies of Ashraful and his wife ceiling of their room.

villagers, police went to the spot at around 9:30am, recovered the bodies and sent them to Natore Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy. Ashraful, an expatriate

in Oman, came home two months ago and was taking preparation to go back to his workplace, police

When Ashraful was in for autopsy report.

put pressure on Madina to Neighbours entered the give them money, claimed room by breaking open the Mazibar Rahman, father of Madina.

He suspected their Madina hanging from the involvement in the killing of the two. Refuting the allega-Being informed by the tion, Ashraful's brothera Rashedul said his brother and sister-in-law committed suicide. "They left a written note, stating that no body is responsible for their death," he said.

> An unnatural death (UD) case was filed with Singra Police Station.

Contacted, the officer-incharge of Singra Police Station said they are waiting

19 Jamaat-Shibir men arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur:

Mithapukur upazila and the city yesterday and the day before.

Of them, 10 were arrested in Mithapukur and the rest nine in different areas of the city.

Police Superintendent Md Abdur Razzak said the arrestees were wanted in cases for attacking and torching polling centres and snatching ballot boxes and ballot papers in the district during the January 5 parliamentary polls and the night before the election day.

Bikash Chandra Das raided

Prince's house around

10:30pm and rescued the

Police, however, could

not arrest Prince as he

managed to flee the scene,

sensing te presence of law

nals abducted a farmer from

Saharbati village in Gangni

members for his release,

reports our Kushtia corre-

Reazul Islam, officer in-

charge of Gangni Police

Station said Selim Uddin,

27, son of Kashem Joarder

of Chandmari village went

out of his father-in-law's

house at Saharbati village

around 10:00pm on

Halima Khatun, wife of

Selim, who had been living

at his in-law's house for the

general diary (GD) with

Gangni Police Station on

The abductors phoned

Halima yesterday morning

demanding Tk 2 lakh as

ransom for her husband's

they are investigating the

Contacted, the OC said,

last three years, filed

Saturday morning.

release.

spondent.

missing since.

enforcers, police said.

SNIPPETS

Man electrocuted

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Police arrested 19 Jamaat- A man was electrocuted at a field at Bhombomi vil-Shibir activists in lage in Dakkhin Sunamganj upazila of Sunamganj district yesterday morning. The deceased was identified as Abul Kalam, 38, son of late Siddique Ali of Sadhukhali village in the upazila. Police and locals said Kalam came in contact with a live electric wire of transmitter lying in the field while working there. He died on the spot.

17 shops gutted

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pirojpur

At least 17 shops were gutted in a fire in Mathbaria municipality area of the district early yesterday. The fire originated from an electric short circuit at

'Missing' driver found murdered

3 held with arms

upazila on Thursday night | Members of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) arrested

Road occupied, hindering movement of 40 families

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

Forty families at Purbo Harinchara village of Domar upazila under the district have remained virtually confined to their houses for about two weeks as members of an influential family recently occupied a road by building houses and putting fences there.

A good number of people of the village use the onekilometre-long and 10-feetwide earthen road passing through the village connecting Bottali Haat and a ghat of Dewnai River to go to local markets, hospitals, educational institutions, upazila and district headquarters, locals said.

But dispute arose recently between the families of Abu Hashem and Ohidul Islam over boundary of two plots of lands at south and north edge of the road as both sides claimed that part of the road as belonging to them.

Sporadic clashes occurred between the two groups and even a shop was damaged at nearby Battali bazaar owned by a group.

On 15 June, Ohidul Islam's men living at north side of the road built houses, planted trees and put bamboo fences in the middle of the road, claiming the portion to be owned by

STAR COUNTRY DESK

dents.

the afternoon

College.

Six people were killed by

lightning in Manikganj,

Narail Satkhira, Bogra and

Gopalganj districts yester-

day, report our correspon-

student was killed by light-

ing at Abudanga village

under Daulatpur upazila in

The victim, Manik Mia,

22, was a first year student of

Daulatpur Motilal Degree

Son of Ahmed Ali of the

village, Manik was struck by

lightning while he was

returning home from a

farmland at around

1:00pm. He was taken to

In Manikganj, a college



PHOTO: STAR

Forty families at Purbo Harinchhara village in Domar upazila of Nilphamari have remained virtually confined to their houses for about two weeks as members of an influential family have occupied a road in the village by putting up fences.

narrow and unusable for movement of people, let alone vehicles.

"I could not take my ailing sister to the upazila hospital by ambulance on Wednesday, as the vehicle could not pass the too narrow road," Abdul Latif, one of the people who have fallen victim to the situation, told this correspondent during his visit to the area on Thursday.

The affected people cannot take their newly harvested boro paddy and other agricultural products

Daulatpur Upazila Health

Complex where the doctors

two people at Gobra village

under Sadar upazila at

fied as Jony Biswas, 23, son

of Murad Biswas and

Alamgir Mollah, 22, son of

said Jony and Barek were

struck by lightning while

returning home from paddy

In Satkhira Sadar upazila,

a farmer was killed and his

father injured as they were

struck by lighting at

morning.

Khejurdangi village in the

field and died instantly.

Family and local people

Barek Mollah of the village.

In Narail, lightning killed

The deceased were identi-

declared him dead.

around 4:30pm.

It made the road too to local markets due to union parishad Azizur said, occupation of the road, said several others including Abdul Aziz, Dabibur and Enamul Huq.

> from the victims, Sub Inspector of Domar Police Station Safigul Alam visited the spot and found the old road now occupied with houses and newly planted

Defying request from Domar Police Station Officer in Charge Kafiluddin, the group has continued the occupation.

Chairman of Horinchara

The deceased was identi-

fied as Mamun Hossain, 38,

Witnesses said Mamun and

his father Abdul Majid, 63,

were hit by lightning while

working in their crop field.

Mamun died on the spot

father Majid to a local clinic.

injured another at Hiranja

village in Dupchanchia

upazila of Bogra district early

16, son of Abdus Sobhan.

The injured, Lutfar Rahman,

32, son of late Jamir Uddin

of the village, is undergoing

treatment at the upazila

health complex.

The dead is Raju Ahmed,

Lightning killed a boy and

serious injuries.

yesterday.

"I have requested district land department to send a government surveyor to demarcate the actual area Following complaint and location of the road. Once it is done, we will implement the decision at any cost to maintain peace in the area.

Contacted, Domar upazila parishad Chairman Abdur Razzak Basunia said, "It is illegal to create obstacle to people's free movement. The upazila administration will do everything to ensure rights of the affected people."

Lightning kills 6 in five dists Police quoted family

The deceased was identified as Taher Mridah, 35,

Officer-in-Charge of members as sating that Taher was struck by lighting on the premises of their

sources as saying that both of them went for fishing in a canal during heavy rain. They were struck by lightning and killed on the spot.

and his father sustained was struck by lightning and killed at Pona village in Locals took Mamun's Kashiani upazila in the afternoon.

> son of Badsha Mridah of the village. Monirul Islam of Kashiani Police Station quoted family

house at around 5:00pm and died instantly.

Girl rescued 8 hrs into abduction Farmer kidnapped for ransom

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

A college girl was rescued eight hours into abduction from Palpara area of Pirojpur town on Saturday night.

Police quoted the girl's family members as saying that Shahnewaz Prince, son of Aktheruzzaman Manik pricked up the girl, a Masters final-year student of Government Brojo Mohan (BM) College in Barisal, while she was returning to her mess in Barisal town around 2:15pm and took her to Palpara of Pirojpur

Father of the victim, filed an abduction case with Barisal Sadar Model Police Station in the afternoon, accusing Prince.

Being tipped-off, a team of Pirojpur Sadar Police Station led by Sub-Inspector

AL rebel wins mayor polls

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

'rebel' candidate of ruling Awami League (AL), was elected as the mayor of Chatmohar municipality in the by-election held peacefully yesterday.

Dulal won with 3,222 votes while his nearest contestant pro-BNP candidate Prof Abdul Mannan got 2,769 votes, said sources at the election office.

In Gopalganj, a farmer to elect the mayor and the woman councillor of the municipality as the two posts fell vacant after Chatmohar municipality mayor Hasadul Islam Hira and councillor Sufia Begum were elected chairman and woman vice chairman in the upazila parishad election.

tested for the mayor post.



PHOTO: STAR

This road in Borogola area of Bogra town has been submerged following a downpour yesterday, causing trouble to commuters.

Chatmohar

Mirza Rezaul Karim Dulal,

Pro-BNP candidate Yeasmin Ara Buri won as the woman councillor in the election.

Mirza Rezaul Karim The by-election was held

Five candidates Abdul

Malek (AL), Rezaul Karim Dulal (AL 'rebel'), Abdul Mannan (BNP), Monir Uddin Moni (BNP 'rebel') and Tara Miah (independent) con-

a shop around 3:00am and soon engulfed the adjoining shops. On information, firefighters rushed to the spot and doused the blaze after two hours of frantic efforts, said Mathbaria Fire Station Officer Abdul Karim. The affected shop owners claimed that the loss caused by the fire could go up to Tk 1.5 crore.

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

A 'missing' battery-run auto-rickshaw driver was found murdered in the district yesterday noon. The dead is Mohammad Adil, 27, son of Robi Miah of Dakkhin College Para in the town. Family sources said Adil went out of home with his vehicle on Saturday morning and remained missing. Locals found his body in Kazipur area of the town and informed the police who sent it to Tangail Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy. Police suspected that the muggers killed Adil to take away his vehicle.

Away in Meherpur, crimi-

UNB, Chuadanga

and demanded Tk 2 lakh as three men along with three Indian pistols at ransom from his family Darshana Check Post in the district on Saturday evening. The arrested are Shahinur Rahman, 35, son of Abdul Wadud of Kamlapur village, Tofael Ahmad, 35, son of Tofazzal Hossain of Arpara village and Khairuzzaman, 32, son of Yunus Biswas of Thanapara village of Sadar upazila in Kushtia district. BGB sources said a team arrested the trio at the check post in the evening while they were returning from India through Gede border. The arrestees were later handed over to Damurhuda Police Station, said Lt Col S M Maniruzzaman, director of Chuadanga BGB-6.

Housewife murdered Thursday and remained

A housewife was killed allegedly by her husband for dowry at Sabek Khator village in Shalikha upazila on Saturday. The deceased is Popy Khatun, 19, wife of Akash Ali of the same village. Shalikha Police Station OC Biplob Kumar Nath said Akash used to torture Popy for dowry since their marriage. Popy also filed a case with a court in this connection. Family members claimed Akash called his wife out of her father's house at Sabek Khator village in the early hours. Later, on Saturday noon, locals found her body in a field of the village and informed police who sent it to Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy. Akash went into hiding after the incident.