

Upazila roundup

KUSHTIA

Sonali Bank staff for implementation of demands

Jan 25: Officers and employees of all branches of Sonali Bank of Kushtia region have demanded immediate implementation of their 10-point demands, reports UNB.

They held a meeting here Wednesday in this regard. It was chaired by Md Rawshan Ali Biswas.

They demands also include immediate disbursement of the proposed incentive bonus of 1990, continued payment of fringe benefits and provision of separate pay scale.

Three separate committees were formed at the meeting to implement these demands.

AKM Helaluddin and Md Kutubuddin were elected President and General Secretary respectively of Sonali Bank Employees Association, Khondakar Abdul Wadud and Md Abdul Momen as President and General Secretary respectively of Sonali Bank Employees Union and Rawshan Ali Biswas and Md Badruzzaman as President and Secretary of the bank's Officers Welfare Association.

RANGAMATI

Body recovered, one held

Jan 25: Police recovered a body from a hut near the New Hospital here early Thursday, reports UNB.

Jahangir Alam (40) was found dead at his with multiple injuries.

Police had taken Farida, wife of the deceased for interrogation.

A case of unnatural death had been filed with the police.

SIRAJGANJ

Woman commits suicide

Jan 25: A young woman of Sadarpara of the town committed suicide by setting fire on her body to get rid of the agony of Tuberculosis, reports UNB.

Shefali Begum (27), a divorced woman, was living at her father's house with her 10 year old son.

She was reportedly frustrated at being unable to continue her treatment due to want of money.

PABNA

Attack on Shibir leader protested

Jan 25: About 300 activists of Islamic Chhatra Shibir and Jamaat-e-Islam brought out a procession here at noon on Thursday protesting the attack on Ziaul Haque, a student leader of the organisation, reports UNB.

The processionists paraded the main thoroughfares of the town and demanded immediate arrest and punishment of the attackers. They also handed over a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner in this connection.

Ziaul Haque (25), President of the town committee of Islamic Chhatra Shibir and a student of Government Bulbul College was seriously beaten by some unknown miscreants Wednesday at 7,000 pm while he was returning home from Jamaat office.

His right hand an leg were fractured during the attack. He was rushed to the Sadar hospital in a critical condition.

A case has been filed with the Sadar police but none was so far arrested in this connection.

BRAHMANBARIA

500 applications for phone allotment pending

Jan 25: One can consider oneself very lucky if one gets a telephone allotted in this small district town, reports UNB.

Over 500 applicants are on the queue to become telephone subscribers. There are only 700 lines in the district which is too small to accommodate the demands of the subscribers.

The existing subscribers have been facing manifold problems with their telephones due to poor service. Frequent cross-connection, noise, continuous busy tone, over billing are the regular features causing immense sufferings to the subscribers, they complained.

The traders and the news-men in the district are the worst sufferers. They have to wait for a long time to get a call.

The subscribers also complained of overbilling or false billing by the telephone authorities here.

COMILLA

650 eye patients get treatment

Jan 25: A total of 50 cataract patients was operated upon and about 600 patients were treated in an eye camp concluded here on January 18, reports UNB.

Held at the Zilla School premises, the eye camp was jointly sponsored by local unit of the Bangladesh National Society for the Blind (BNSB), Engineers Ladies Club, BMP of Comilla and Chittagong Eye Hospital.

Another message adds: The election of Comilla Survey Institute Chhatra Sangsad was held on Sunday.

Atiqur Rahman and Akhteruzzaman Chowdhury were elected as Vice President and General Secretary respectively.

FARIDPUR

Road construction work in progress

Jan 25: The construction work on Noapara-Madhukhali Growth Centre Connecting Road in the district is progressing fast, reports UNB.

The Deputy Commissioner inaugurated the work recently while Executive Engineer of Local Government Engineering Bureau, Faridpur and Madhukhali upazila Nirbahi Officer were present on the occasion.

When completed, the 4.52 kilometre long and 24 feet wide road will connect Noapara Growth Centre (rural market) with Madhukhali Upazila Headquarters.

World Food Programme has sanctioned 208 metric tons of wheat worth about Taka 14,56,000 for the successful implementation of the project.

JAMALPUR

Pry teachers for release of central President

Jan 25: District Unit of Bangladesh Primary Teachers Association in a meeting recently demanded unconditional release of its central committee President Abul Kalam Azad, reports UNB.

The meeting was held at Singani Primary School auditorium with Unit Chief Makbul Hossain in the chair.

The speakers warned that if the demand is not met immediately they would intensify their movement for which government will be held responsible.

Another message adds: Local people brought out a procession protesting irregularities in sanctioning Taka 12 lakh mortgage loan in favour of a trader Muzammel Huq by the Manager of Sonali Bank Dewanganj Branch.

The processionists also protested against corruption in distribution of agri loan by the same manager.

FENI

Tk 80 lakh for road development

Jan 25: Road communications in the upazila will get a new boost with about 80 lakh Taka sanctioned by the Local Government and Engineering Bureau, reports UNB.

Five major roads in three upazilas of the district will be treated under the post flood rehabilitation programme.

Besides Taka 31.28 lakh was sanctioned for road carpeting in Chhaganatya upazila. Taka 16 lakh for the reconstruction of Sirahadi-Podua BOP Road and Taka 23.38 lakh for Farhad Nagar Road of Sadar upazila and Taka 6.25 lakh for a bridge in Box Mahmud Road in Porshuram upazila, official sources said.

With the successful implementation of the schemes, about five lakh people will be benefited, sources added.

RAJSHAHI

Asad Day observed

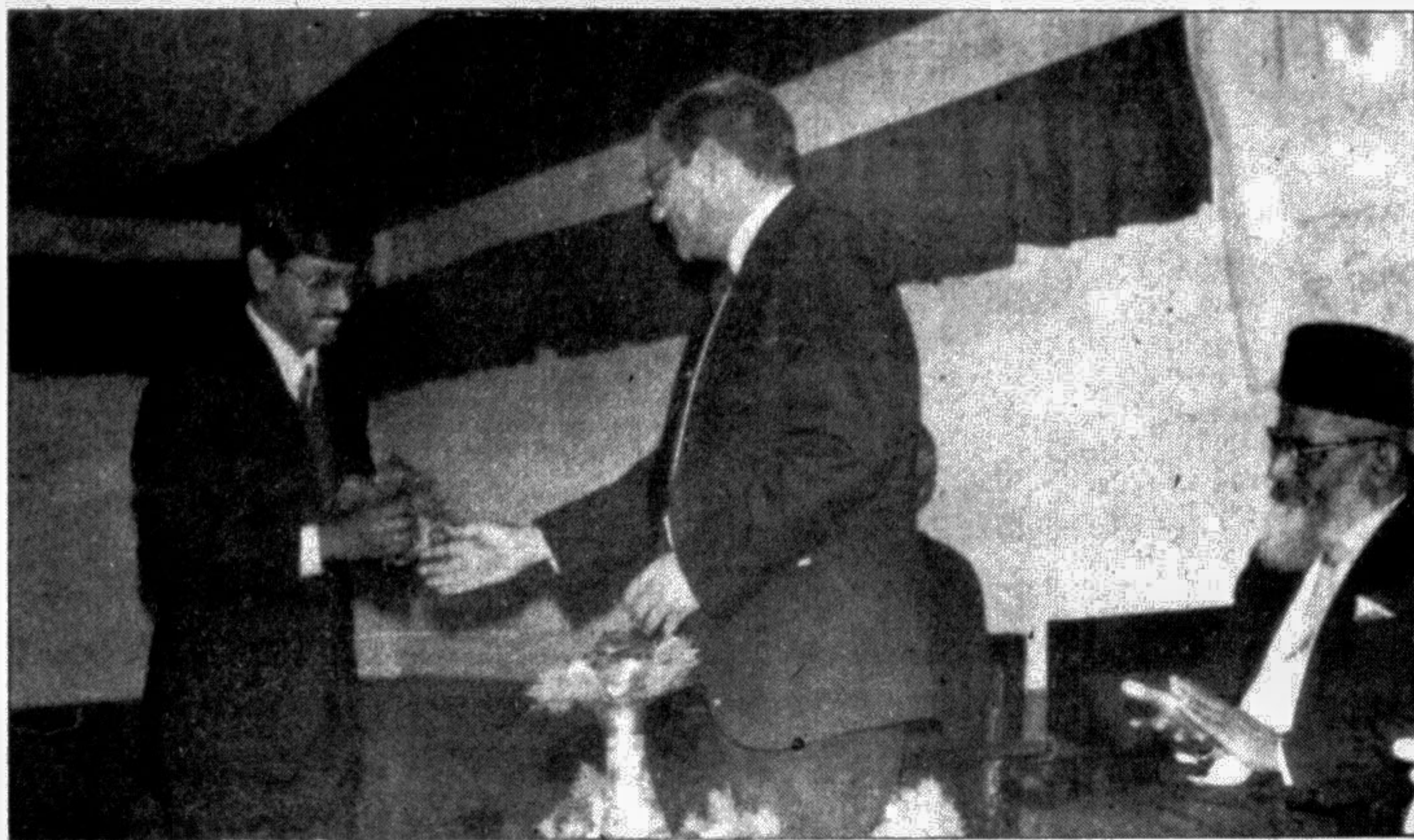
Jan 25: Student activists of Awami League backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (S-A) held a meeting on the university campus here in observance of Asad Day, reports UNB.

The meeting was presided by Abdul Hannan, President of BCL, Rajshahi University Unit.

The student leaders at the meeting alleged that the present government has recruited agents to spread violence in different educational institutions.

They asked the students to resist the evil designs and terrorism in order to bring peaceful atmosphere on the campus.

Student leader Rabul Alam, Budu, Layebuddin, Labu, Shariful Islam and Abdus Salam also addressed the meeting.



AGRI VARSITY: Prof Asadur Rahman, Vice-Chancellor, BAU handing over a bunch of flowers to a teacher who got national award for his contribution to agricultural technologies at a function held here recently. —Star Photo

Problems compel weavers leave profession

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, Jan 25: The high prices of yarn, dyes, chemicals and other raw materials have compelled the weavers of the district face acute crisis.

It is apprehended that in the absence of proper steps the weaving factories of the district would be closed in the near future.

The weaving factories which once earned country-wide fame for its quality are playing an important role as there are a good number of weavers in the district. The occupation of most of the population of Kaliganj Upazila is weaving. Besides, a large number of people from Tala, Kalaroa, Debhata and sadar

upazilas are weavers.

The weaving factories in these areas provide job opportunities to a large number of people who have no other means of livelihood. So, abnormal rise in prices of cotton yarn, dyes, chemicals and other concerned materials have affected the industry.

The weavers fail to compete with the synthetic products as the Bangladesh Textile Mills have raised the prices of different varieties of yarns. The imported old clothes have also aggravated the situation further.

The large scale availability of Indian sarees has also affected the weavers as the

smuggled sarees are cheaper and fashionable. The customers are reluctant to buy the country made sarees and the weavers are to return back home with their products.

For the prevailing situation, many weavers in the district have left their ancestral profession and now engaged in either agricultural sector or in mills and other factories.

Those who are still in this profession are in a pitiable condition and facing a uncertain future.

The concerned authorities have been urged to take immediate steps to help them continue their ancestral occupation and earn their livelihood.

Notes from Jhenidah

JHENIDAH, Jan 25: A body of a goldsmith was recovered by police from a ditch at Sreerampur in Kotchandpur Upazila recently. He had been missing since January 12, reports UNB.

According to police, the ill-fated victim Abdul Muhit Biswas (55), of Sreerampur was missing on his way home after closing his shop at Kotchandpur Bazar on that day. The villagers later found the body in a decomposed state and informed the police.

Police suspected that enmity with his relatives over land dispute might be the reason behind his death.

The body was sent to Jhenidah morgue for autopsy. A case has been registered with Kotchandpur police in this connection.

NDF backed students procession

Jatiya Chhatra Dal, Students wing of National Democratic Front (NDF) Jhenidah District Unit, organised a rally here at local Agrani Bank Square recently.

In the meeting, they protested administration's inaction regarding arresting persons involved in setting fire at its unit President Abdul Malek's residence in which his wife Selina Khatun was burnt to death recently.

Presided over by Syed Labu, Acting President of the unit, the rally was addressed, among others, by central leader Tozammel Hossain and local leaders Habibur Rahman and Saidu Rahman.

Condemning the silence of the administration, the speakers demanded immediate arrest and punishment of the culprits responsible for the incident.

Later a procession was brought out in the town parading main thoroughfares. They chanted various slogans in favour of their demand.

Teachers on strike

Three thousand secondary teachers in six upazilas of the district went on strike for an indefinite period at the call of Bangladesh Shikshok Federation.

They called for implementation of their 15-point demand including nationalisation of education and implementation of new pay scale.

Presided over by Abdul Khaleq, President of Jhenidah District Unit Sangram Committee (Amanullah Group) a rally was held at local WA High School in which speakers warned that the strike would continue until their demand were met.

Eye, dental camp

A week-long eye and dental camp was concluded recently at a primary school premises in the district.

A total of 445 eye and dental patients got medical check up and treatment and another 37 cataract patients were operated upon in the camp conducted by dental surgeon M Nazrul Islam Hazari and Eye Specialist Dr Shah Nurul Islam.

The camp was organised by local APP Club. Bangladesh National Society for the Blind (BNSB) in cooperation with the APP Club will also hold another eye camp soon.

Sylhet Bar executives

SYLHET, Jan 21: The annual election of the District Bar Association was held here on January 16 in a peaceful manner, reports UNB.

Abdul Gaffur, Abdul Hamid and Abdul Hye Khan have been elected as President, Vice-President and General Secretary respectively of the association.

Besides, nine executive members were also elected.

Kushtia Sugar Mills

Rly dilly-dally may stop production

KUSHTIA, Jan 25: Kushtia Sugar Mills may stop production due to non-cooperation of the Railway Department in carrying sugarcane, reports UNB.

Mills sources said, Taka 37 lakh has been paid to the Railway Department for engaging at least one engine for carrying sugarcane load wagons continuously from November 8. But after December 7 the Railway Department suddenly withdrew their engine without any prior notice and started dilly dally putting the mills to total uncertainty.

The supply of sugarcane in the mills is largely dependent on railway carriage as there is no direct road communication in 8 centres. The centres are Halsia, Choraikole, Kumarkhali, Khoksa, Machhpara, Pancha, Mohendrapur, and Hashimpur. Due to the apathy of the Railway Department the mills

have to incur a heavy loss daily raising the figure to about Taka 60 lakh so far. At the same time sugarcane in the field started drying up heavy losses to the growers.

The mills management tried to persuade the Railway Department to desist from such whimsical practice. But measures are yet to be taken for resolving the problems.

The Mills have crushed 80,350 tons of sugarcane and produced 6054 tons of sugar up to January 14 against the target of 18000 tons with a recovery of 7.8 per cent.

The striking teachers and employees of all non-government education institutions brought out a procession here Thursday protesting the comments of State Minister for Education against their demands.

Irregularities in mental hospital, patients suffer

PABNA, Jan 25: Lack of medical instruments, medicines, and absence of proper care have almost rendered the Pabna Mental Hospital unfit for providing smooth services to patients, reports UNB.

It is alleged that medicines supplied by the government are being sold to the local pharmacies by some dishonest employees of the hospital.

Patients complained that most of the doctors of the mental hospital rarely attend the patients in time adding they come to the hospital to sign their attendance and then return to their private chambers.

They also complained of unhygienic environment, low quality diet, unclean and non-comfortable beds and mal-treatment by the staff and doctors in the hospital.

Shortage of medical apparatus, X-ray machine, oxygen, ambulances have been prevailing in the hospital for a long time.

Local leaders have urged the authorities to take immediate measures to remove the problems in the only hospital of the country.

Acute shortage of bullock is posing serious setback to cultivation throughout the district during the current season.

According to informed

sources, about 60 to 70 per cent of the farmers of the district have no bullock to till their lands. As a result, a vast area of land remain fallow every year.

At present a pair of bullock is being sold between Taka 9000 and Taka 12000 which is beyond the purchasing capacity of the common farmers.

Farmers said cattle diseases claim a large number of cattle head every year. About 500 bullock die and about 5000 are attacked by the epidemic diseases every year in the district.

Natural calamities also took a large number of bullock last year. More over the greedy cobblers are found poisoning cattle in different places of the district only to collect skins.

On the other hand scarcity of fodder is prevailing in various places of the district.

Prices of oilcakes, barn, husk and other materials used as fodder have gone beyond the purchasing capacity of the farmers.

The local people urged the authorities to provide loans for purchasing bullock and take preventive measures to check the cattle diseases for redress their sufferings.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock
No. PIO/Store/1-15/92/17 Dated: 16-1-92
Re-Tender for Supply of Transport and Vehicle (IS)

- Sealed tenders are hereby invited for supply of under-mentioned items from bonafide Manufacturers/Suppliers of Bangladesh and other Asian Development Bank (ADB) member countries. Payment for these supplies are to be made under ADB Loan No. 733 BAN (SF).
- A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased at the address given below on all working days during office hours up to 2.00 P.M. on 24-2-92 upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Tk. one thousand (Tk. 1,000.00) or US dollars thirty (US\$ 30.00) together with an additional amount of US dollars thirty (US\$ 30.00) to meet up foreign air mail charges if a prospective foreign bidder wishes to obtain the same by post (No cheques/money orders or postal orders will be accepted).
- All bids must be accompanied by a bid bond or bank guarantee to the value of two per cent (2%) of total Bid Price and must be delivered in accordance with the Instruction to Bidders on or before 12.00 Noon on 25-2-92 and will be publicly opened immediately thereafter.
- No tender will be entertained unless accompanied by the tender documents to be supplied from the office of the undersigned.
- Original Brochures, Catalogues etc. from the manufacturers must be submitted along with the offer with signature in the individual page (s) failing which offer may not be evaluated for acceptance.
- The authority reserves the right to increase or decrease the number of the items within 15% of the quantities specified or drop any item and to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever and also not bound to accept the lowest rate.

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Krishi Khamar Sarak, Farmgate,
Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Phone : 314165, 812988
Cable : DRLIVE, Dhaka
Telex : 642736 ADB BJ

List of items:

A. Package-1 Jeep-2 Nos
B. Package-2 Pick-up-7 Nos

DFP(G) 725-16/1

G-72

Dr Nur Muhammad Chowdhury
Project Co-ordinator
Second Livestock Dev. Project



PABNA: Local Lions Club arranged a blood-donation programme in observance of 75th founding anniversary of International Lions Club recently. —Star Photo