

**Upazila roundup**

**JAMALPUR**

**Tk 2.15 cr electric bills realised**

June 6: Power Development Board, Jamalpur Division, realised Taka two crore and fifteen lakh on account of outstanding electric bills, official sources said, reports BSS.

Taka five crore fell arrear to electric consumers of twelve centres of the division.

Divisional authority launched a massive drive to realise outstanding electric bills from consumers.

Meanwhile, five hundred defaulting electric lines were disconnected.

**SYLHET**

**Doctors urged to serve toiling masses**

June 6: State Minister for Land M Kabir Hossain has called upon the doctors to devote to the services of the toiling masses, reports BSS.

The present democratic government was committed to ensure health for all by the year 2000, he said.

The State Minister was addressing the doctors at the installation ceremony of the newly-elected members of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA), Sylhet Branch at M A G Osmani Medical College auditorium on Tuesday.

Deputy Minister for Health and Family Welfare M Serajul Hoque spoke on this occasion as the special guest.

Presided over by Professor M A Raquib, Principal of Sylhet Medical College and President of the Bangladesh Medical Association, Sylhet Branch, the function was also addressed by Secretary General of BMA, Dr Ghazi Abdul Hoque, General Secretary BMA, Sylhet Branch, Dr Shamimur Rahman and VP of Sylhet Medical College Student Union, Ziaul Karim Za.

Mr Kabir Hossain sought cooperation of the members of BMA in framing the new Drug Policy.

Turning to the efforts of the present democratic government in changing the lot of the common people, Mr Kabir urged the people of all walks of life to supplement the government efforts to achieving the fruits of the real democracy.

**DINAJPUR**

**Housewife commits suicide**

June 6: A housewife of Bishwanathpur in Sadar upazila allegedly committed suicide by taking poison recently, reports UNB.

According to family sources, the victim Lutfia, wife of Abdur Rahman, following a family feud took poison to kill herself. She was rushed to the General Hospital where she succumbed in the evening.

The body was buried without post-mortem.

Another report from Moulabazar adds: A young man Md Altaf (21) allegedly committed suicide by taking insecticides at village Tikria in Sreemongal Upazila recently.

On getting information, a police party from the Sreemongal thana went to the spot and sent the body to the Maulvibazar Sadar Hospital for post-mortem.

The cause of the suicide could not be ascertained. A case of unnatural death has been registered in this connection.

**MAULVIBAZAR**

**Rat menace**

June 6: Rat menace has been spreading in six upazilas of the district causing extensive damage to the crops, reports UNB.

Standing crops and vegetables on hundreds of acres of land in rural areas in the district have been invaded by rats.

Affected farmers of the district failed to check the menace due to lack of necessary insecticides, they alleged.

The district was not covered in the recent rat-killing drive throughout the country.

**BORGUNA**

**District town beset with problems**

June 6: Borguna town is beset with manifold problems causing untold suffering to the dwellers, reports UNB.

Faulty drainage system, unauthorised shops and houses built beside the road, indiscriminate parking of rickshaws and other vehicles, absence of public toilets and mosquito menace have been vitiating the surroundings for a long time.

Moreover, innumerable cracks and potholes have developed on different points of roads causing inconvenience to vehicular traffic and pedestrians. A large number of poor teenage boys are seen plying rickshaws having no licence and creating traffic congestion.

In absence of a proper drainage system, roads in the town often go under water after a light shower while a moderate rainfall submerge many points of the town.

**CHAPAINAWBANJ**

**Cattle lifting rampant**

June 6: Cattle lifting has become a regular feature in the Barind area for a long time, reports UNB.

At least 200 incidents have been reported from the area including Nachol, Gomostapur, Bholahat and Sadar upazilas of the district, Godagari, Thanor in Rajshahi district and Niamatpur, Manala of Naogaon District during the last four months.

Armed with lethal weapons miscreants often take away farmers' cattle by show of force from the crop fields. Some of them come from across the border, the farmers reported.

The price of a pair of cows or buffaloes range between Taka 6,000 and Taka 10,000 in the market, which most farmers cannot afford.

The BDR personnel seized 11 cattlehead while being taken away to India recently.

**NAOGAON**

**2025 apply for 330 honours seats**

June 6: A large number of students intending to take admission in 7 honours subjects of the Comilla Victoria Government College are going to be disappointed, reports UNB.

College administration said a total of 2025 applications had been filed for 330 seats in the seven departments.

The highest number of applications (475) were submitted for 60 seats in the Economics Department and the lowest was 81 for 30 seats in the Bangla Department.

In Accountancy Department, 457 applications were received for 60 seats, in Political Science 317 applications for 50 seats, in Management 441 applications for 70 seats, in Chemistry 112 applications for 30 seats and in Physics 112 applications for 30 seats. Larger number of students have sought admission this 1992-93 session than that of the previous year.

June 6: The oath-taking ceremony of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA), Naogaon district unit was held recently at the local Coronation Hall, reports UNB.

The BMA President Dr M A Majed attended as chief guest and administered oath to the newly-elected members.

Civil Surgeon Dr Ali was in the chair.

The BMA Secretary General Dr Gazi Abdul Huq and Deputy Director of Rajshahi Division, Health, Dr Rashid Uddin Chowdhury attended as special guests.

Naogaon Zilla BMA Branch President Dr Nurul Islam Mondal and Secretary Dr A T M Shahjahan Ali spoke on the occasion.



CHAPAINAWBANJ: The local newsmen brought out a silent procession protesting the harassment of Journalists through false cases by the administration on June 4.

**Favourite mango now dear**

**From Our Correspondent**

KUSHTIA, June 6: Mango, one of the main seasonal and favourite fruits of our country is now dear.

The prices of different varieties of mangoes available in the local markets are more than double in comparison with the prices of the name during last year.

The prices of mangoes have shot up this year due to the sharp fall in production and rising demand in home and abroad.

Huge quantity of mangoes are produced including the quality ones in Greater Kushtia district. But the production has fallen by 50 per cent during the last 15 years for want of pragmatic policy and patronisation.

A large number of mango trees are destroyed every year for use as fuel. The huge use of these trees in brickfields has aggravated the situation. Finding no other alternative, the poverty ridden people of the villages sell the trees to earn the livelihood.

It is learnt that the production in other main mango pro-

ducing areas like greater Rajshahi, Dinajpur and Rangpur Districts has also fallen abnormally.

According to reports, the total mango production in our country was three lakh tons in 1985 and it came down to 1.80 lakh tons in 1991.

A total of 45,000 hectares of land is now under mango cultivation. The per hectare production is now four tons which was 6.60 tons in the year 1985.

The quality mangoes are produced in the northern zone of country including greater Kushtia district. The quality mangoes are known as langra, khirsapati, himsagar, bombat, fazli and dudsagar.

About 5,000 people are engaged in mango production in Greater Kushtia while in Greater Rajshahi, Rangpur and Dinajpur more than 50,000 people are also engaged in the same profession.

Numerous traders and brokers from different parts of the country including Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna and

Narayanganj throng to the districts to buy mangoes.

Bangladesh mangoes have also high demand at abroad for making juice, jelly and sauce.

In the seventies, Bangladesh was the fourth biggest mango producing country of the world but now its position is 10th, it is learnt.

According to experts, Bangladesh can regain the previous position by boosting up production by means of modern technology which will fetch a lot of foreign exchange besides meeting the local demand at considerable prices.

It is learnt that many countries like India, Pakistan, Brazil, Sri Lanka, Mexico, Indonesia also produce mangoes and they have gained a great success in its position by utilising modern technology and earning a lot of foreign exchange by exporting mangoes and its by-products to the Middle East and other countries.

Indian annually produces 90 lakh tons of mangoes while the rest of the countries produce 1,42,00,000 tones.

**Section 144 at Kushtia**

**Villagers clash, 50 injured**

KUSHTIA, June 6: At least 50 people were injured in a clash between two villages in Sadar upazila Wednesday, reports UNB.

Hundreds of villagers of Adulpur armed with lethal weapons attacked Lazimpur and fought battles following a fight between two youngmen at betel leaf market in Lazimpur.

They attacked in retaliation of the event and ransacked at least 12 houses. They also exploded crackers during the attack and damaged the adjoining banana garden.

Adulpur villagers demanded peaceful solution of the problem and threatened of further action if it is not resolved soon.

Among the injured, two were admitted to the Kushtia General Hospital.

ing of cases, it was reported.

The arrested are Chairman Zahirul Islam Bomol, Mozamel Huq, Harun Joardar, Bishu, Jahangir, Haider Ali and Zul Haque.

A case has been filed in this connection with the local police.

**Section 144 at Kushtia**

The district administration imposed Section 144 in the town from on Thursday to avert any possible clash between Jamaat-e-Islami and Ghatok Dalal Nirml Committee.

Jamat decided to hold a public meeting at Islamic College ground on Thursday at 5 pm while Ghatok Dalal Nirml

Committee also called for a similar meeting at the saem venue, same time.

The Nirml Committee brought out torch procession Thursday evening demanding execution of Gano Adalat's verdict.

**Train services suspended**

Train communication from Rajbari to Khulna and Rajshahi were suspended Wednesday following a clash between two feuding parties.

passengers travelling between Poradaha and Rajbari suffered immensely due to the disruption, railway source said.

Negotiation could not be reached between the parties till 4 pm Thursday.

**Drought, seeds to hit jute production**

GAZIPUR, June 6: The production of jute will fall far short of target during current season because of the adverse effect of the persisting drought and paucity of quality jute seed.

Agriculture Extension Department (AED) sources here told UNB that an intensive programme had been launched for cultivation of jute on 29000 acres of land in the district.

But only 1500 acres of land could be brought under jute

cultivation.

Sources said drought, low price of jute and scarcity of high yielding jute-seed are the main factors which discouraged the jute growers.

Meanwhile, to encourage and popularise jute cultivation among the farmers, AED has set up 5 demonstration plots

A total of 10 projects have been taken up for implementation at a cost of Taka 75 lakh by the Local Government

**Notes from Tangail**

TANGAIL, June 6: The eleventh death anniversary of Shahid President Ziaur Rahman was observed here in a befitting manner on Saturday, last, reports BSS.

The Bangladesh Nationalist Party held a Quaran Khani, milad mahfil, kangalvoz and discussion meetings.

A special monajat was offered on the occasion for the salvation of the departed soul. **Jamiatul Modarashen unit meet held**

Bangladesh Jamiatul Modarashen, Tangail district branch held a meeting Sunday at Darululom Madrasa premises.

The meeting discussed organisational matters and programme of development aspects.

Speakers stressed the need for the recognition of Ebtadayi Madrasahs.

Among others Maulana Abdul Latif, General Secretary of the organisation and Principal Maulana Md Abdus Salam Rajef spoke on the occasion.

Principal K B M Yusuf presided over the meeting.

**7 hurt in attack**

Seven person including a child and a woman were injured in surprise attack launched by a group of people on their rivals at village Goraki under Mirazpur Upazila recently.

Police said that one person was arrested in this connection.

Centring IRRI harvesting one group allegedly attacked the house of one Tomzuddin of the village. The house inmates were beaten. They were treated in Kumudini Hospital.

**Canal digging in progress**

The re-excavation work of the 11 canals in Tangail district have been completed in time during the current fiscal year.

Fifty per cent of the total work have been done on voluntary basis and rest of the works under Food for Work Programme.

A total of 365 metric tons of wheat have been allocated for the purpose.

This was informed in the review meeting of the District Canal Digging Committee held here with State Minister for Relief Lutfur Rahman Khan in the chair.

Local MP A Salam Pintu and concerned officials attended the meeting.

Later, the state Minister attended astudent gathering as chief guest at Kalihati College auditorium in Tangail.

Addressing the gathering, MR Khan recalled their glorious role during the period of our Liberation War and mass movement against autocracy.

He said, the student did well in the past and they should devote themselves to study for building their bright future.

**Dacoits kill cop**

MYMENSINGH, June 6: A police man was killed and another injured when they came under attack from dacoits on Thursday, reports UNB.

Police constable Yunus Ali (40) and ASI Enayet Hossain were shot at when they went to arrest two alleged dacoits at village Baruri in Sadar upazila of the district. Yunus died on way to hospital.

Enayet was admitted to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital with serious bullet wound.

Police said the incident took place near the house of the dacoits, Shaif and Saiful, at about 10 am on Thursday. The attackers snatched one SMG from police but it was recovered from a pond of the village early on Friday.

Police picked up 18 persons from the village in connection with the incident and filed a case against them. The main accused of the case are Saiful, Shaif, Bulu and Minu, all sons of Altaf Ali of village Baruri.

**BNP unit confce held**

PATUAKHALI, June 6: The biennial conference of Dumki thana unit of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) held here has constituted a new committee, reports UNB.

Mahabuddin Miah and Prof Mazibur Rahman have been elected President and Secretary of the committee respectively.

Post and Telegraph Minister M Keramat Ali attended as the chief guest while Mahabuddin Miah presided over the conference.

The Minister also attended the meeting of the newly elected members of Lebukhali Union, BNP, held the same day.

Addressing the meeting, the minister said the chairman and members of the committee should devote themselves to the service and welfare of the people of their locality.

**215 incidents gutted Tk 1.97cr property**

BARISAL, June 6: A total of 212 fire incidents occurred in Barisal, Jhalakathi, Pirojpur, Bhandaria and Bhola in 1991, Barisal Fire Station office source says, reports BSS.

According to the source, the fire stations located in these places have saved property worth about Taka 7,26,89,637. The property damaged by fire was worth Taka 1,97,37,989 during in the period of January to December 1991.

Of the total fire incidents, 50 took place from ovens, one from cigarette, 9 from fire ashes, 3 from fire playing of children, 4 from making fire, and the remaining incidents, from various other sources.

Non-Government Organizations' Forum held a seminar on Saturday on conservation on the eve of World Environment Day. Presided over by Punur-

dan Guda, Chairperson of Association of Development Agencies in Bangladesh (ADAB) and Director of Caritas, Barisal Zone, the function was addressed among others by Md Kamruzzaman, Md Sahidul Islam, Mr Pal Pravaakar Saha, Ms Tahima Sultana Kajal, Endru Kishore and Bulbul Begum.

Tree plantation, rally, meetings, film show were included in the programme.

The State Minister for Education Principal Md Yunus Khan said we have achieved democracy through a long struggle and the student community should come forward to safeguard the hard-earned democracy.

The State Minister was addressing as chief guest at a reception to the newly-admitted students of Government Brojomohan College of Barisal on Sunday.

**Distribution machine of seed, fertilizer developed**

AGRI-VARSITY, June 6: A highly effective seed-cum-fertilizer distribution machine has been developed in the workshop of the Department of Farm and Machinery of Bangladesh Agricultural University, reports UNB.

A final year BSc Agri Engg (Hons) student of the department Paritosh Roy developed the machine under the supervision of Dr A T M Ziauddin of the University, said a press release.

The machine would be able to broadcast seeds of cereal crops like rice, wheat, pea, pulses, mustard etc and fertilizers including the oil-cake power and ashes effectively and in balanced may in lesser time.

Weighting about 6.15 kg, the size of the machine is 20 cm X 30 cm X 60 cm and it's cost would be between Tk 400 and 500 only.

Explaining its effectiveness Dr Ziauddin said the machine would be succeeded in achieving more than 75 per cent Uniformity Co-efficient (UC) in our agricultural land against

the backdrop of prevalent seed broadcasting system, the highest UC of which had been recorded as 43 per cent only.

He said the machine has been developed with very simple techniques and it can be used manually without requiring any skilled person adding, "We hope the machine will play a significant role in enhancing the overall growth of agricultural production in our country in future."

A 14-member executive committee of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) Ladies' Club has been formed with Prof Hosne Ara Khan, wife of the Vice Chancellor as Chairperson and Asya Zoha as its General Secretary.

Other officer bearers are: Vice-Chairperson Prof Dr Lutfun Ara Hossain, Joint Secretary Shefal Razaque, Treasurer Hosne Ara Patwary, Literary and Cultural Secretary Tasalli Mahboob, Game Secretary Nibedita Dewan, Social Welfare Secretary Kuhel Haque.

**Illiteracy eradication drive in upazila**

**From Our Correspondent**

GOPALGANJ, June 6: A rally of field workers, teachers, students, guardians of 14 Mass Education Centres, 80 Makhtabs and 52 Literacy Centres of Mukusdpur Upazila under the district was held at Bonogram Govt Primary School premises recently.

Organised by Bangladesh Legal Aid Foundation, the rally discussed the ways and means to eradicate illiteracy from this upazila completely by the years 2000.

The speaker sought the co-operation of all concerned with an emphasis on protection of environment from pollution, family planning, hygiene sanitation and welfare matters of the public including law and order situations.

The rally was presided over by Arjul Islam, Chairman of Moharajpur Union Parishad under Mukusdpur Upazila. Syed Nurul Islam, Deputy Commissioner, Gopalganj, attended in the function as chief guest, while Meer Solaiman, educationist, was present as special guest. Major (Retd) Mohammad Yaqub, Founder and Chairman of Bangladesh

Legal Aid Foundation was the chief speaker and organiser of the function.

The rally addressed among others by Abdul Mannan, Abul Basher, Hassan Ali, Coordinator and Nasima Khatoun, the best Mass Education Teacher.

The speakers urged the guardians, students, teachers and the general public to send their illiterate family members specially the girls to attend classes of mass education, makhtabs and literacy centres regularly in order to save the society from the ill effect of illiteracy and thus reducing the rate of in the area.

The chief guest and the chief speaker assured the rally that they would put their best to approach the concerned head quarters of this educational authority to help out this downtrodden and most illiterate people of this Upazila by implementing different educational programmes simultaneously and to set an example for our country in Education campaign. Later, a cultural show on Mass Education presented by the artistes of Bangladesh Legal Aid Foundation.

**BDRCS to rehabilitate erosion-hit people**

FARIDPUR, June 6: new programme to provide economic backup to the erosion affected people has launched by Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) in Decreechar Union under the sadar upazila of this district on Friday, last, reports BSS.

In connection with the launching of this programme a function was held at Gendu Mollarhat along River Padma where hundreds of rootless people have been living under temporary sheds. They were rendered homeless by the erosion of river Padma.

Speaking on the occasion, the Secretary General of the BDRCS Major (Retd) Ali Hasan Quraishi said that the Society had taken up this programme to make the erosion affected people self-reliant. The recipient families have been grouped together and each grant of 12 families would be given Taka 24 thousand for a period of two years, he said. With this loan-money the group would be required to carry on businesses like fishing, poultry farming, kitchen gardening and other small traders, he added.

The secretary General fur-

ther said that programme earlier taken up in the coastal areas yielded positive results. Quraishi stressed the need for close monitoring of the loan cases by the supervisors for proper utilization of the loan.

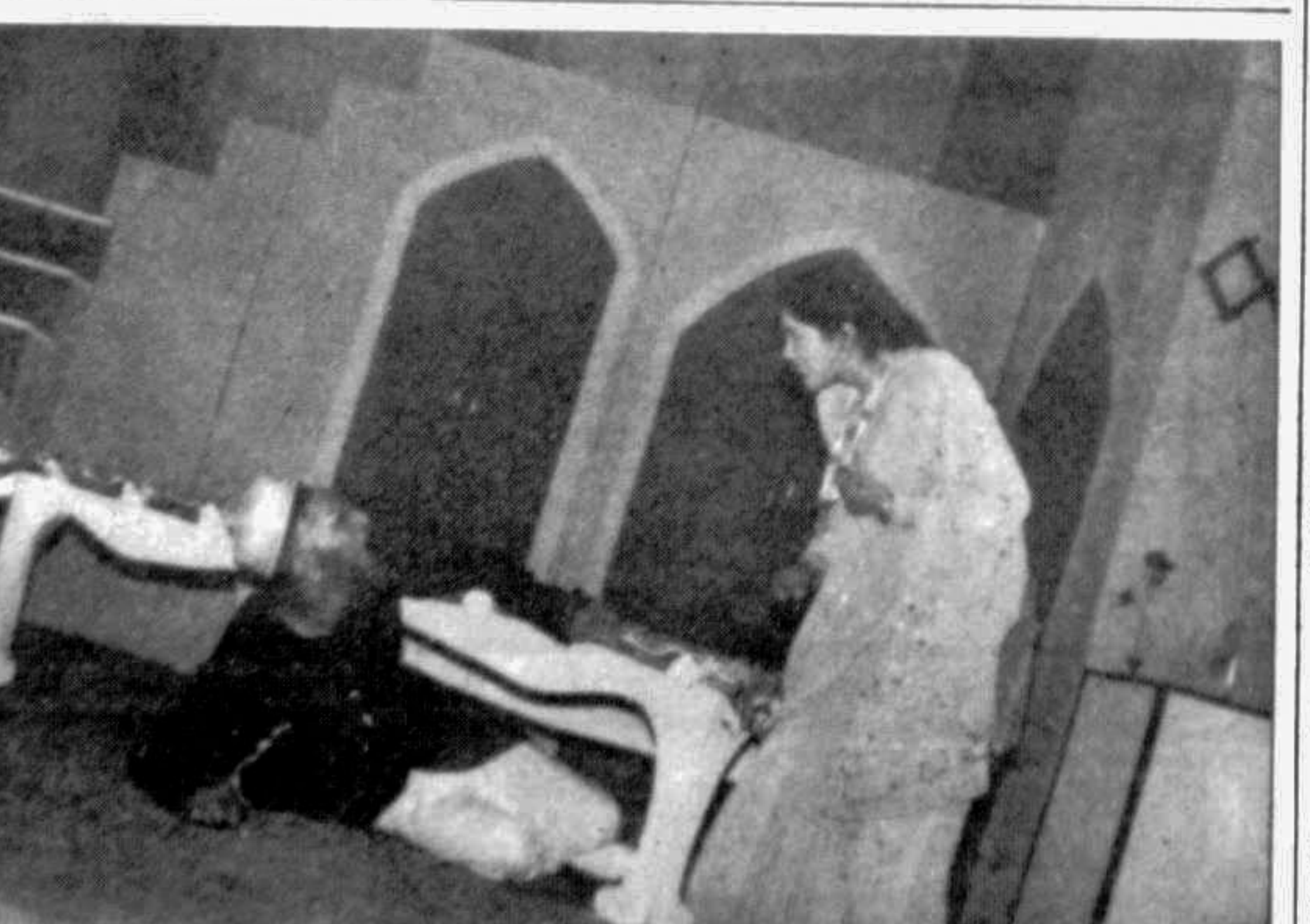
Md AbdurRahim, Deputy Commissioner of Faridpur who attended the function as chief guest handed over the cheques to the loanees amounting to Taka four lakhs.

The function was attended among others by Chairman of BDRCS Faridpur Unit Kamruzzaman Khan Gasu, Honourary Advisor of the BDRCS, Husainuzzaman Chowdhury, and Anwar Ali, Secretary of BDRCS, Faridpur Unit.

Chairman of Faridpur Unit said that five unions of sadar and Charbhadrassan Upazila badly affected by river erosion had been brought under the programme where 75 families would given loan.

The function was presided over by Sadiquzzaman Milani, Chairman of decreechar Union Parishad.

The jawans of Bangladesh Rifles recovered contraband goods worth about Taka 3 lakh from different vehicles near the bus stand in the town.



A scene of the drama 'Bhamda' based on Moliere's 'Tartuffe' was staged at the Mahila Samity Auditorium, Dhaka on June 4 and 5. A workshop organised by Sylhet Shilpakala Academy was held in this connection and the Bengali version of the play by French Litterateur was highly appreciated by the audience.