

Need for increased nat'l savings underscored

State Minister for Communications Fazlur Rahman yesterday underscored the need for increased national savings for socio-economic development of the country through strengthening the activities of National Savings Department, reports BSS.

He was inaugurating a two-day annual conference and workshop of National Savings Department of Rajshahi division at Natore Zila Parishad auditorium.

The State Minister said, the government had placed a people and development oriented budget for the fiscal year 1993-94 without imposing new taxes on the people. Tax of Taka 325 crore was reduced over the last fiscal year, he mentioned.

He called upon all concerned to build a social movement to attract the people towards savings by different schemes of National Savings Department.

Presided over by director of Savings Department, the function was addressed, among others, by Divisional Commissioner of Rajshahi M Aminul Islam, Deputy Director of Savings Department and

Deputy Commissioner of Natore.

The conference was informed that Taka 105 crore were invested in first ten months of the fiscal year 1992-93 in different schemes in Rajshahi division against the target of Taka 147 crore. In the fiscal year 1991-92, Taka 99 crore were invested in the division.

Lions Dist 315A office-bearers

Lion Faruq Moïn, a Charter Member of Lions Club of Narayanjanj has been elected uncontested the District Governor and Lion Akhtaruzzaman has been appointed Cabinet Treasurer of Lions Clubs International, District 315A for '93-94 at the 6th Annual District Convention held at a local hotel recently, says a press release.

Lion Faruq Moïn joined Lionism in April, 1974. Since then, over the last 19 years, he has held important position in the Club as well as in the District.



A procession in front of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday demanding arrest of the alleged killers of Shah Alam. — Star photo

Change in farmers' lot can help build poverty-free Bangladesh

Development of the condition of the small farmers comprising 70 per cent of the country's farmers community, is of utmost importance for building a poverty-free Bangladesh, reports BSS.

This was observed by the speakers at a workshop of Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development, Comilla (BARAD), on 'Model for the development of small farmers'.

Inaugurating a day-long workshop, Deputy Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Abdul Hye said the small farmers are engaged in production and interested in more investment for more production.

He said although agricultural credit is there, the scope for getting loans from banks is very limited for the small farmers. This compels them to borrow money from informal sources which consequently make them landless and destitute.

The deputy minister appreciated the BARAD's model for the small farmers in view of the above situation. In this connection he noted that UNDP and FAO had also highly commended the model and urged the Bangladesh government for expanding the project.

The BARD's model suggested formation of small groups of farmers and providing them with necessary loans for various income generating projects and encouraging development of savings habit.

Secretary of Local Government and Cooperatives Division Mohammad Mahe Alam, who chaired the function, stressed the need for using the internal forces and resources of the target people for the success of the model.

He also called for ensuring participation of the small farmers in decision making process for the sustainable development.

Director General of BARD Dr Kshanada Mohon Das said since the inception of rural development efforts in '60s only big farmers got the institutional facilities while the number of

the landless people and general poverty increased gradually.

Das said with the experiences of the past, BARD has developed this model to facilitate small farmers for sustainable development of the national economy.

He said there are institutions like Gramscn Bank for the landless and extreme poor and Krishi Bank for big farmers. But institutions for the small farmers, those play key-role in agricultural production, are yet to be set up. Das urged the authorities to take initiatives in this regard.

The model is presently operating in 21 thanas of seven districts and organised 13,163 families under 2,316 groups. They were sanctioned loan worth Taka 302.75 lakhs for various projects while the rate of recovery is 99 per cent.

Call to maintain congenial atmosphere in educational arena

Energy and Mineral resources Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain yesterday stressed the need for concerted efforts of all to maintain congenial atmosphere in the country's educational arena for ensuring the future prosperity of the nation, reports BSS.

"If we want to ensure bright future of the nation, we must come forward with sincerity to create a healthy and congenial environment on the campus for the optimum flourishing of talents of students", he said.

The Minister was addressing as the chief guest the prize giving ceremony and re-union of the students of Positron Coaching Centre held at ICMA auditorium here.

Presided over by Dr Golam Rahman, Chairman of the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication of Dhaka University, the function was

also addressed by Chairman of the board of editors of Daily Ittefaq Barrister Mainul Hossain, Principal of Badrunessa Government College Begum Hazera Nazrul and Director of Positron Coaching Centre S M Mizanur Rahman.

Dr Mosharraf said, instability and indiscipline had gripped the educational institutions due to political turmoil since the liberation of the country. From that time, the students started depending on the help of private tutors and coaching centres.

Barrister Mainul Hossain said that the past autocratic government had used the teachers community as a tool of political weapon resulting in instability of the educational institutions.

The minister later distributed prizes among the successful students of the centre.

Appointment of new DG as per law : BIDS

The appointment of new Director General of Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) by the Board of Trustees is fully in accordance with its rules and regulations, a BIDS press release said yesterday, reports BSS.

In order to dispel misunderstanding from the minds of people—created by some false and misleading news items—the newly appointed DG of BIDS Dr S A Latifur Reza, Prof and former chairman of Department of Economics, Dhaka University, made the following statement.

Dr Reza said, "the BIDS board of trustees in its meeting on May 5, with Minister for Planning in the chair, decided unanimously to appoint Dr S A Latifur Reza, Professor and ex-chairman, Department of Economics, Dhaka University, the Director General of BIDS. The appointment of Professor Reza is fully in accordance with BIDS rules and regulations.

"News items published in some newspapers that the new

Director General is not acceptable jointly to research and non-research members of the institute and that the institute has gone on work stoppage since June 1, 1993, are not correct. Some news items that have been published by involving me with regard to receipt or non-receipt of projects at BIDS are also false and motivated.

"Such false and fabricated news items are being nurtured and released by a vested interest group of BIDS who monopolize benefits at BIDS over a long period and are now shaky and disgruntled only because many irregularities that have been curbed and reforms initiated by a fair and impartial administration under my guidance during a short tenure of my assuming of the charge of BIDS are not of their liking. All concerned are requested to kindly guard themselves against falsehood and mispropaganda of the vested interest group at BIDS and their accomplice outside."

Dhaka WASA Tender Notice. Tenders are invited from Dhaka WASA enlisted 1st, 2nd & 3rd class civil contractors for the work cleaning of 1500, 1675 & 1800 mm dia brick sewer from Balaka Cinema Hall to Paribag canal and 450 & 600 mm dia pipe drain, manhole & catchpit at Elephant Road by lane at an allotted cost of Taka 41,900/-.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Divisional Forest Officer Coastal Afforestation Division, Noakhali Tender Notice. Re-Tender Memorandum No. 46 Dated: 30-5-93. 1. Re-tenders are hereby invited from importers/agents/dealers/suppliers in sealed envelope for purchasing of Motor Cycle, Bi-cycle, Nursery Equipment & Country Boat under "FOREST RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PROJECT" IDA Credit No. 2397/BD during 1992-93 for the Coastal Afforestation Division, Noakhali as listed below:

Mongla Port Authority Office of the Executive Engineer Division-2 Mongla, Bagerhat Tender Notice. Sealed tenders in Form No 2911 are invited from the enlisted contractors of the Authority for the following works under Mongla Port Authority.

First class first BJSL General Secretary off to Zurich. Ruksana Samad stood first class first in the MSS final examination '88-89 (held in '92) from the Department of Social Welfare & Research under Dhaka University. Bhuayan will attend the six-day 100th anniversary congress of International Metal Workers Federation which begins today in Zurich.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Police Super, Kushtia Tender Notice. Sealed tenders are invited from intending bonafide automobile repairing workshops for repair to 3 (three) jeeps & 3 (three) trucks of Kushtia District Police Department.

সড়ক ও জনপথ কোটেশন আহবান বিজ্ঞপ্তি (ফ্রেশ আহবান). ১। কোটেশন বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং : ৪, সাল ১৯৯২-৯৩ যশোর সড়ক বিভাগ, যশোর। ২। কাজের নাম : ১৯৯২-৯৩ অর্থ বৎসরে যশোর সড়ক বিভাগের অধীন নড়াইল-কালিয়া সড়কের ২০ তম কিঃ মিটারে কালিয়া ফেরীঘাটের পারানী ২ (দুই) বৎসর মেয়াদে ইজারা পদান।

Executive Engineer Division-2. Tender Notice. Tender document with terms & conditions will be available at cash price mentioned against each work from the following offices on all working days during banking hours up to 20-6-93 and will be received in the Tender Box kept at the same offices up to 12-00 Noon on 21-6-93.

HERE and THERE Audience Assoc of VOA. Central Audience Association of Voice of America yesterday criticised the behaviour of the opposition members of Jatiya Sangsad regarding parliamentary round-up, telecast by BTV last Sunday night, reports BSS.

STAR TV WORLD SERVICE TELEVISION Saturday 12th June (All programmes in local time). 6 am World News, 6.25 Newswatch, 7.00 World News, 7.25 Antenna, 8.00 World News, 8.25 Newswatch, 9.00 World News, 9.25 World News, 10.00 World News Extra, 10.25 Network East Extra, 11.00 World News, 11.30 Film '93, 12.00 World News, 12.15 Winsting, 1.00 World News, 1.25 The Late Show, 2.00 World News, 2.25 Public Eye, 3.00 World News, 3.25 3D, 4.00 World News, 4.25 World News Week, 5.00 World News, 5.25 Tomorrow's World, 6.00 World News, 6.25 In Search Of The Dead, 7.00 World News, 7.25 The Late Show, 8.00 News Headlines, 8.25 The Look, 9.00 World News, 9.25 Network East Extra, 10.00 World News, 10.25 TBA, 11.00 World News, 11.25 Assignment, 12.00 World News, 12.25 The Late Show, 1.00 World News, 1.30 Network East Extra, 2.00 News Headlines, 2.25 The Look, 3.00 World News, 3.25 UN World, 4.00 World News, 4.25 Top Gear, 5.00 World News, 5.25 A Cook's Tour Of France.