

## District roundup

### MAGURA

#### Three jailed for violating girl

Sept 11: A man was sentenced to life term and another two to 10 years of rigorous imprisonment for kidnapping and violating a girl, court sources said here Wednesday, reports UNB.

Convict Shamsuzzaman of Jhagadia in Mohammadpur thana was awarded life term while Akkas Ali and Maula of the same village 10 years RI.

The convicts were also fined Taka 10,000 each or in default, to suffer two years more RI.

According to the case, Dilruba Khatun Fauja (16) was kidnapped from her bed room at Jhagadia village while she was sleeping on September 21, 1992, by the accused who forcibly entered the house by breaking open the door.

The kidnappers took her to a house at Miahakhola in Narail and violated her one after another.

After 16 days on October 8, she managed to flee away and returned to her house and informed the incident to her guardians.

A case was registered and police submitted charge sheet against Shamsuzzaman, Akkas Ali and Maula after investigation.

Assistant Sessions Judge of the Special Tribunal Court Abul Hossain Bepari found them guilty and awarded the punishment on August 26 after examining the witnesses and records of the case.

### KUSHTIA

#### 'Illiteracy hindrance to national development'

Sept 11: State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Abdul Mannan said Wednesday that the present government attached top priority to education sector to free the nation from the curse of illiteracy, reports UNB.

He was speaking as chief guest at a seminar organised in observance of the International Literacy Day at Kushtia Polytechnic Institute auditorium. He said illiteracy is the main hindrance to our national development.

Mannan said without eradication of illiteracy from the society the socio-economic development of the country can not be ensured. He urged the people of all walks of life to come forward to implement the programmes initiated by the present government.

Earlier, the state minister led the Literacy Day procession from Kushtia Zila School to the Polytechnic Institute. Local students, teachers, guardians and cross section of people participated in it, says an official hand-out.

Parliament Member Begum Selma Shahid, Ahsanul Huq Mollah, Abdul Rouf Chowdhury and Dr Anwarul Karim, Prof Nurul Islam Chowdhury and President of Kushtia district BNP Shahidul Islam also spoke on the occasion.

### NARSINGDI

#### Voluntary blood donation programme

Sept 11: A voluntary blood donation programme was held last week at Narsingdi Government College jointly organised by the district and youth unit of Red Crescent Society, says UNB.

A total of 72 bags of blood were donated by the students of the college. Zakaria Khaled, Deputy Director, Blood Centre, BDRCS, was present on the occasion as chief guest.

Pranab Chakrabarty, acting president of Narsingdi College Youth Red Crescent unit, Abdur Rahim, secretary college unit of Red Crescent and other officials were present on the occasion.

### SATKHIRA

#### School teachers gherao TNO offices

Sept 11: Non-government primary school teachers of the district gheraoed offices of Thana Nirbahi Officers on Sunday to press home their four-point demands, reports UNB.

They also submitted a memorandum to the TNOs for early fulfilment of their demands.

Their demands include nationalisation of all non-government primary school teachers and sanctioning grants before nationalisation according to previous condition or giving salary of at the rate of Taka 1,500.

### C'NAWABGANJ

#### Discussion meeting on dairy farm

Sept 11: A discussion meeting on dairy farm was held here at the Deputy Commissioner's conference room last week, reports UNB.

Whip Shahjahan Mia attended the function as chief guest, presided over by DC Md Sahidullah Mir.

Director of Rajshahi Livestocks Department, Nurul Islam and dairy farm owner Monirul Islam addressed the function.

Shahjahan Mia urged the farm owners to work hard to help make the country self-reliant in milk production.

Later, Shahjahan Mia handed over seven cheques amounting to Taka 2.25 lakh to the owners of seven dairy farms of the district.

### B'BARIA

#### Property worth Tk 35 lakh gutted in fire

Sept 11: Property worth about Taka 35 lakh was burnt into ashes in the last eight months in different fire incidents in the district, reports UNB.

In Sadar thana, at least 30 fire incidents took place and goods worth about Taka 4.52 lakh were gutted.

Fire Service sources said they rescued goods worth Taka eight crore from different fire incidents during the period.

A man was succumbed to his burn injuries and 25 others were wounded in the fire incidents and property worth about Taka 20 lakh was gutted in Bancharampur thana.

In Ashuganj, goods worth Taka seven lakh were gutted by the devastating fire. Besides, in Sarail, Akhaura, Nabnagar, Kasba and Nasirnagar property worth about Taka 2 lakh was gutted.

### TANGAIL

#### Rehabilitation programme for blinds

Sept 11: The rehabilitation programme for the blinds of Mirzapur thana concluded here recently, reports BSS.

The programme drawn and run by the assistance for the blind children since 1988 benefited one hundred and eight blinds in the thana.

The association distributed three point five lakh taka among the blinds.

On the concluding session these people were handed over the savings and interest of the invested money. These blinds people through these money also ran their families during the last five years.

The assistance for the blind children during this time also ran some social welfare activities for the general public.

### CHITTAGONG

#### Valuables worth Tk 2 lakh robbed from bus passengers

Sept 11: A gang of armed dacoits robbed valuable goods worth about Taka two lakh from the passengers of a Cox's Bazar bound chair-coach at Fashikhali under Chakari thana here Thursday, police said, reports BSS.

When the passenger coach reached Fashikhali, the dacoits numbering about ten disguised as passengers with arms stopped the coach and snatched away money, wrist watch, and other articles from the passengers.

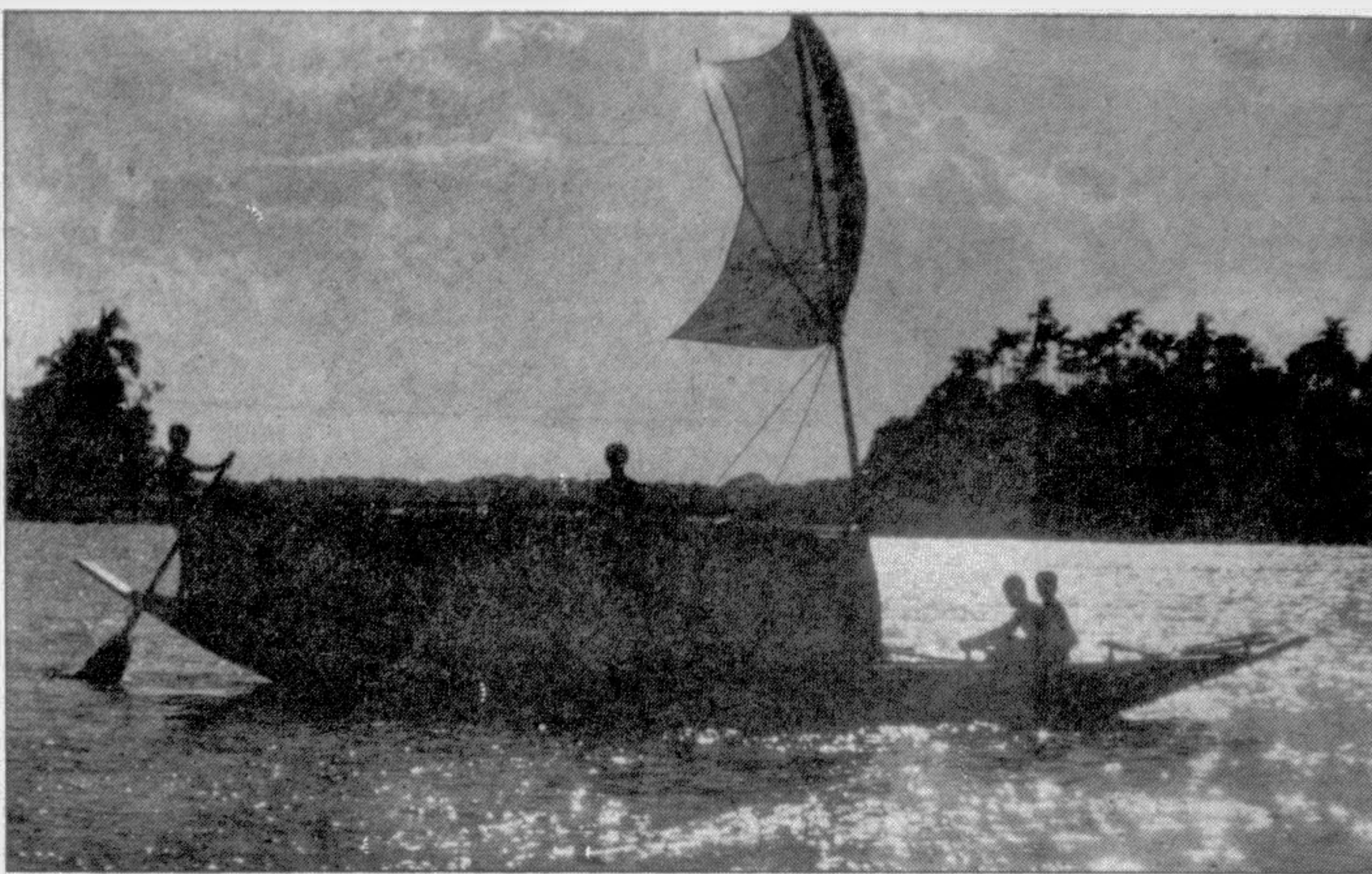
### SHERPUR

#### SSC students accorded reception for outstanding results

Sept 11: The students who scored meritorious results in the last Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examination from the district were accorded a reception by the Adarsha Biddayapth here recently, says BSS.

Babu Robi Neogi, President Sherpur Sangbadik Samity was present at the reception as the chief guest. It was presided over by the Akaruzzaman, Principal of the Sherpur Law College. The function was addressed among others by Al Hajj Habibur Rahman and Abu Baker.

Twenty three students who scored better results from the district were present in the function. They were given prizes.



A traditional scenery of travelling in Bangladesh during rainy season.

— Star photo

## 1 crore people hostage to outlawed party activists

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE, Sept 11: Over one crore people in 26 thanas of Khulna division are hostage to outlawed party activists.

About 8,000 people have been killed by the activists in these areas during the last 20 years, it is informed.

It is learnt that the people of most rural areas of Jessore, Jhenidah, Narail, Magura, Khulna, Satkhira Bagerhat, Kustia, Chuadanga and Meherpur districts are now under the control of extremist groups and passing through a state of anarchy.

Detailed informations say that Kotchandpur, Kaliganj, Horinakundu, Sailokupa, Moheshpur and Jhenidah thanas of Jhenidah, Bagherpara, Keshabpur, Obhainagar thanas of Jessore, Fultala, Dumuria thanas of Khulna Tala thana of Satkhira, Dakob, Soronkhola including Sunderbans thana of Bagerhat, Kamarkhali, Mirpur, Daulatpur and Kushtia thanas of Kushtia, Jibonnagar, Alamdanga, Damurhuda and Chuadanga thanas of Chuadanga, Gangni of Meherpur district one being dominated by these groups.

Security of life and property of the people now at their mercy. The entire areas have turned into inferno.

Some villages of these areas

### Phensidyl sales depot

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE, Sept 11: Local town has reportedly turned into a sales depot of phensidyl. Smuggled from India in large scale through different border routes of the district, it is being stored at several places of the town for sale and supply.

It is learnt that an organised gang is engaged in smuggling of the drug here to build up a buffer stock and ensure supply to all the markets of the country.

It is reported that certain areas of the town including Mollapara, Barandipara, Ghope, Churipatty and Railway Stationpara have become known for this business. A number of houses in these areas are being used as mini-godown for preservation of the item.

informed that they are moving round the area day and night keeping watch over activity of every person. Looting, raping killing are their only practices. Anybody trying to resist, is not spared. Extortion of tolls at gun point is their normal rule.

Another source told that recently two brothers of Baharampur were killed near the village Fulbari of Kotchandpur thana by this group of armed terrorists.

One Isha was killed in gun battle between police and the outlawed party at Jhenidah. Isha reportedly belonged to Purbanga Communist Party.

Police, this week recovered one beheaded body from a village under Mongolkot union of Keshabpur thana, reportedly killed by the activists of Purbanga Communist Party (ML). A total of five including this one have been killed in the adjoining areas of Keshabpur, Dumuria and Tala thanas.

According to another source, a total of 883 people have been killed by the outlawed party in different thanas of Jhenidah, during the last twenty years.

## 3,400 affected by Jamuna, Padma erosion

MANIKGANJ, Sept 11: Some 3,400 people in two thanas of the district were rendered homeless due to erosion by the rivers Jamuna and Padma in the last two days, reports UNB.

Official sources said a total of 360 dwelling houses in Daulatpur and Harirampur thanas were also eroded away by the rivers during the period.

About 390 families in Bachamar, Zianpur and Baguria unions of Daulatpur thana lost their homesteads by the erosion, local people said.

## 'Work with sincerity, Oli to R&H engineers

RAJSHAHI, Sept 11: Communications Minister Oli Ahmed called upon the engineers to work with sincerity, honesty and accountability in maintaining the standard of construction of roads and bridges, reports BSS.

He made this call while addressing the engineers of all levels of roads and highways department under 16 districts of the division at a meeting at local Moniruddin Akand Hall here.

## Five godown officials face anti-corruption charge

PABNA, Sept 11: The Bureau of Anti-Corruption has filed a case against five ex-officials of Muladuli CSD godown in Iswardi thana for their alleged misappropriation of rice and wheat, reports UNB.

Police said the bureau filed the case against Lutfur Rahman, Matlubur Rahman, Mamtajuiddin Bhuiyan, Mozammel Haque and Zainal Abedeen.

The five food officers have allegedly misappropriated 91 metric tons of rice and 868.05 tons of wheat worth about Taka 11 lakh.

The officials have been transferred to different Food Department offices excepting Mozammel Haque.

## Scheme undertaken to produce 2000 tons of fish annually

From Our Correspondent

KUSHTIA, Sept 11: The Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock has taken up a scheme to develop 30 water bodies in five districts to increase fish production and for socio-economic development of poor fishermen of the area. The IFAD and DANIDA are extending monetary and technical assistance for scientific and systematic cultivation of fish to remove the scarcity of fish now prevailing in the country.

Thirty baors under the project cover an area of 2160 hectares of land. When completed, 2000 tons of fish worth Taka 6.50cr is expected to be produced every year.

Kaliganga Badalibasha Jalmahal has been included in this scheme. The BRAC has been entrusted with the duty to mobilise fishermen in collaboration with district and thana level fishery offices.

The work in the Jalmahal

area spread over 66 acres of waterbody having participation of 74 local poor fishermen. This type of project is being implemented for the first time in Bangladesh sponsored jointly by Directorate of Fisheries and BRAC (Bangladesh Rural Advancement Council).

### Fertility of agri land declining

The fertility of agricultural land is declining rapidly due to rampant use of chemical fertilisers and minimum use of cowdung manure in the district.

According to sources, the use of cowdung is essential for keeping fertility of land for productivity. Cowdung is not used proportionately due to the decrease of cattle and frequent use of cowdung as fuel in rural areas.

Due to the scarcity of cowdung, the farmers are compelled to use chemical fertilisers.

## 'Raise output to reduce sugar import'

PANCHAGAR, Sept 11: Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz formally inaugurated the sugarcane plantation season '93-94 by planting sugarcane saplings at Kalapara, about five kilometres from here on Thursday, reports BSS.

In his brief address to the sugarcane farmers, he called upon them to increase production to ensure adequate supply of raw materials to the local sugar mills and help reduce dependence on imported sugar.

Later, Mirza Hafiz formally inaugurated the newly built academic building of Mirzapur High School at a cost of Taka eight lakh, Shikarpur Quazi Para Government Primary School at a cost of Taka four lakh five thousand and the extension building of Mirzapur Primary School at a cost of Taka three lakh 50 thousand.

Addressing a gathering of students, teachers and guardians of local educational institutions at the Toria High School premises, the Law Minister urged the students to devote themselves to studies first in order to make themselves worthy citizens of the nation. He specially stressed the

need for the development of education for women as educated women could better teach their children than their male counterparts.

Mirza Hafiz said, education is the first precondition for overcoming manifold problems facing the nation in general and individual in particular. With this end in view, the present government has made ever highest allocation in the national budget.

## BAU officers observe strike

MYMENSINGH (BAU), Sept 11: Officers of the Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) observed a second full day strike on Sunday in support of their two point demands, says a press release.

The Bangladesh Inter-University Officers Federation (BIUOF) gave a call for three-day strike from September 4-6 to realise their demands which include modification of down graded pay scales of the university officers and representation of officers in various statutory committees including Senate Syndicate and Finance.

## Govt to reform jail condition in phases

SHAFIPUR (Gazipur), Sept 11: Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury called upon the officials of jail department to discharge their duties with honesty, sincerity and dedication on Tuesday, reports BSS.

He advised them to fulfil the people's hopes and aspirations in performing their responsibilities and to create a good perception in people's mind.

The minister was addressing the passing out parade of the fifth batch trainee jail guards at Shaipur Ansa Academy here, a PID handout said.

He said, government was determined to establish modern jail management system. Government would implement the recommendations of jail commission to reform jail condition in phases, he added.

The minister pointed out the

role of jail in changing and reforming the nature and behavioural pattern of prisoners. He emphasised on changing traditional behavioural pattern of jail administrators with jail inmates. He asked them to be sympathised with prisoners and underlined the need for establishing a fulfilled training institution for jail administration.

Earlier, on his arrival at Ansa Academy the minister was received by Home Secretary Azimuddin Ahmed, Director General of Ansa and VDP Major General Syed Badruzzaman and IG (Prison) Brigadier Md Abul Hossain.

Later, the minister inspected the parade and took salute of 300 jail guards. He also distributed prizes among the best seven jail guard trainees.

## Help spread of education for national development

BAGERHAT, Sept 11: Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman called for spreading education for ensuring national advancement, reports BSS.

"In a developing country like ours conscious section of the society should come forward to play a vital role in creating awareness about literacy among the masses," the Foreign Minister asserted.

The Foreign Minister was speaking at a seminar on the significance of International Literacy Day-93 held at Bagerhat High School auditorium at Bagerhat town on Wednesday.

Arranged in connection with the International Literacy Day-93 the seminar was participated among others by Syeda Nargis Ali MP and president of Bagerhat district BNP Barrister Kazi A T Monwaruddin.

He referred to various education programmes undertaken by the present government which included Education, Compulsory Primary Education and free education to girls students upto class eight etc.

The Foreign Minister reiterated the govt's firm determination to wipe out the scourge of illiteracy from the society thereby making a happy and prosperous Bangladesh for our posterity. He further said that

there is no alternative to education.

The Foreign Minister later led a colourful procession which paraded the main street at the town. The processionists carried colourful placards, festoons and banners and changed various slogans in favour of International Literacy Day-93.

Various other socio-cultural organisations in the town observed the day in a befitting manner.

### Education Minister

A report from Dinajpur says: Education Minister Barrister Zamiruddin Sircar called upon the people of all walks of life to put in all out efforts for eradicating illiteracy from the country.

The Education Minister was addressing a meeting held in observance of International Literacy Day here on Wednesday. Presided over by Deputy Commissioner, the meeting was addressed, among others, by President of the Bangladesh Principals' Council and local BNP leader.

The Education Minister said, the government has introduced revolutionary programmes of mass education and compulsory primary education for imparting education to the masses. He said, the country would be free from curse of illiteracy by the year 2000 if these programmes are imple-

mented properly. He observed that the recently launched 'Food for Education Programme' would bring the children of under privileged people under the umbrella of education.

Barrister Zamiruddin Sircar said, the government is thinking actively to apply new devices for ensuring accountability of the teachers and education officials engaged in the field of primary and mass education. He said, the teachers are accountable to the whole nation to make them educated.

### Education must for development

Another report from Kishoreganj says: Deputy Minister for Shipping A B M Zahidul Haque called upon the people of all walks of life to actively participate in dissemination of education among the common people in order to achieve the cherished goal of national development.

He said that education was a guiding force for poverty alleviation and without it a nation could not make prosperity.

The Deputy Minister was addressing as chief guest a huge public meeting arranged in observance of International Literacy Day at Kishoreganj stadium here.

Presided over by Deputy Commissioner Fazlul Hoque,

the meeting was addressed, among others, by Ataur Rahman Khan MP, district BNP president Habibur Rahman Bhuiyan.

The Deputy Minister called upon the teachers to discharge their duties with responsibility and sincerity. He urged the education section of the society to motivate the people to send their children to school in order to remove illiteracy from the society.

Referring to human resource development programmes taken up by present government, the Deputy Minister said, educated people are the best wealth of the country. He stressed the need for cooperation of all to make the programme a success. Later, the Deputy Minister led a big rally of student teacher and people of all walks of life. Starting from the stadium the rally paraded main roads of the town and ended to Nazimuddin High School.

### No alternative to education

A report from Tangail adds: The International Literacy Day was observed in the district as elsewhere in the country and the world over.

State Minister for Relief Lutfur Rahman Khan formally inaugurated the programmes. He also took part in a big colourful rally of school boys

and girls and members of different socio-cultural organisations which paraded main roads of the town.

Earlier, Lutfur Rahman Khan addressed as the chief guest in a discussion meeting on the occasion at Tangail Bindubashini Girls' School premises. Deputy Commissioner of Tangail Khandaker Abdul Matin Khan presided over the meeting. Among others, Khandaker Abu Taher MP, Anwara Habib MP, Abdur Rahman, former religious affairs minister and Shamsul Haque Chairman of Tangail Pourashava addressed the meeting.

The State Minister said, no developmental programme can give results keeping the majority of people illiterate. For this the present government is working tirelessly to bring success in its Compulsory Education Programme and Food for Education Programme.

"There is no alternative to education in making a brilliant future of the country and the government is giving utmost priority for making education for all with 2000 and programmes a success," he added.

The State Minister urged the people of all walks for cooperating the government for a cent percent success in mass education programme and associated themselves with other development programmes of the government.

## Stolen motor cycle recovered

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Sept 11: Stragjanj police have recovered motor cycle from Kaziপুর road crossing. The motor cycle was stolen earlier.

It is gathered that acting on secret information, sadar police chased three persons travelling on a motor cycle. The riders later fled away leaving the cycle at Kaziপুর road crossing.

A case has been lodged with Stragjanj police in this connection.

## Headmaster killed in truck accident

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, Sept 11: Headmaster Dilip Kumar Saha was killed here this morning while a speeding truck ran over him near a local bus stand.

Saha, 50, was the headmaster of the Talma High School of Nagar Kanda thana under Faridpur district.

The truck hit the rickshaw on which Saha was travelling. The doctor declared the victim dead while he was taken to the hospital.

The truck fled after hitting the rickshaw.