

## HSC students punished for adopting unfair means

BARISAL, Feb 14: The Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Jessore has awarded various punishments to 1,657 HSC examinees for adopting unfair means in the halls during examination in June and July, 1993, reports BSS.

According to an official source, this decision was taken in a meeting of the disciplinary committee of the board on January 13.

Of the total, 1,003 candidates have been expelled for one year each, 562 candidates for two years each, 88 candidates for three years each and four others for four years each.

## School student succumbs to injuries

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, Feb 14: Emdadul Haque Kabir (17), son of Mafizuddin Gandhi of village Batrish under Kishoreganj pourashava succumbed to his injuries at Mymensingh Medical College hospital on February 12 morning.

It is learnt that Kabir, a student of class X, was attacked by a group of miscreants near the complain centre of PDB at Rathkhola of Kishoreganj town while he was returning home after enjoying cinema show on February 11 night.

The miscreants stabbed him in the belly and neck. He was immediately rushed to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital. The incident was reportedly a sequel to a previous rivalry between two groups of young men, police said.

A case was registered with the Kishoreganj Police Station in this connection. None has been arrested.

## Telephone subscribers complain of corruption

KUSHTIA, Feb 14:

Telephone subscribers in the district have been facing manifold problems due to alleged corruption of the officials of the concerned department, reports UNB.

The subscribers said negligence in duty, rampant corruption, tampering of metres in switch room, over billing the T & T officials have made their condition pitiable.

Moreover, theft of underground cable and overhead drop wire has become a regular feature causing disruption of large number of telephone connections every day.

According to them on February 7 at least a hundred telephone went out of order, on Feb 8 it came down to 90 and on Feb 9 it stood at 81.

Some complained that over a hundred subscribers have a clandestine contract with the concerned telephone officials who are getting monthly bills not above Tk 500 against free NWD facilities round the clock.

Meanwhile, a large number of applications for telephone connections remained pending with the office for a long time.

Kushtia district Press Club applied for telephone connection in the year 1990. But due to mysterious reason the connection is not given on priority basis. As a result, the journalists are facing serious problems in despatching news to the capital and elsewhere in the country.



## Obituary

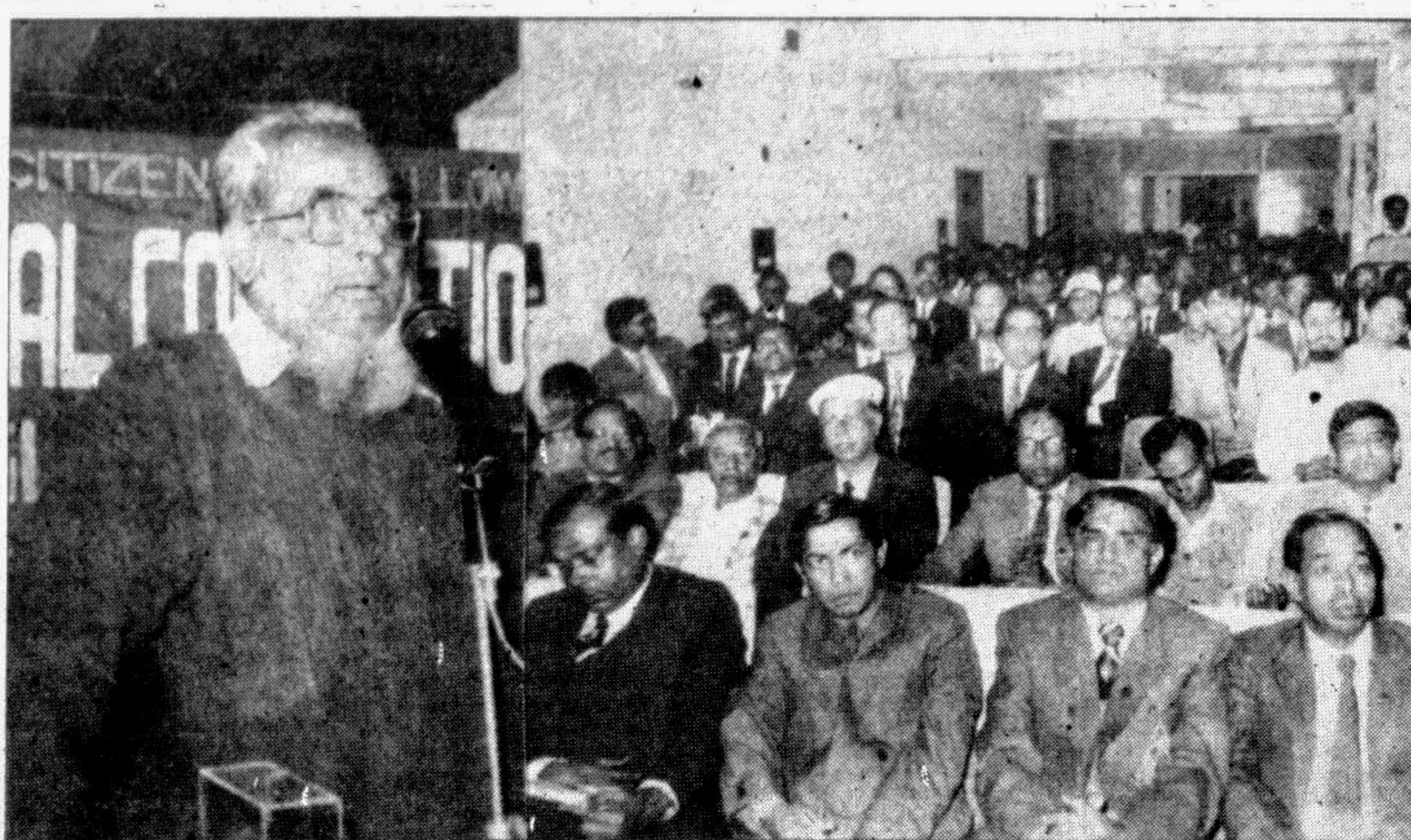
Hasna Aziz Wife of M A Aziz former Division Chief Planning Commission breathed her last recently, at Mymensingh Medical College Hospital. She was 65, says a Press release.

She was the eldest daughter of late Al-Haj Ghyasuddin Pathan, a Minister of the then Pakistan. Hasna after having her M A Degree from Karachi University studied Sociology in the Queens University of Canada.

She worked as Lecturer of a Karachi College and Asstt Professor in the Residential Model College, Dhaka. She was also Principal of Pakistan School (Intermediate) in Tehran, Iran.

She has been buried at the family graveyard of her husband at Nayabari, Gafarganj.

She has left behind her husband, a son, a daughter and a host of friends, relatives and students to mourn her death.



SYLHET: Prof Syed Mohibuddin Ahmed, VC, Shah Jalal University of Science and Technology speaking as chief guest at the concluding session of the national conference of Apex Club of Bangladesh held here recently. - Star photo

## 9 lakh deprived of pryd for want of schools

SIRAJGANJ, Feb 14: About nine lakh children of the northern region of the country are being deprived of primary education due to absence of educational institutions, reports UNB.

According to a government statistics, out of 23,494 villages of the 16 districts 11,365 have no primary schools at all.

The statistics said in greater Pabna district, out of 3,594 villages, 1,785 have no school. Some 1,43,599 children of the district cannot go to school.

In greater Bogra 74,201 children are not getting primary education as 1,477 villages out of 2,738 have no school at all.

In greater Rangpur out of 5,948 villages, 3,813 have no school and as a result 4,23,025 children cannot go to schools.

In greater Dinajpur 1,23,232 children are not going to school as there are no schools in 1,537 villages out of 3,622.

Some 1,39,802 children of 3,226 villages out of 5,748 in Rajshahi district are being deprived of primary education as there are no schools in those villages.

Construction works on 90 primary schools, including six madrasas of eight northern

districts, have been completed at a cost of Taka 18.50 crore, official sources said.

Facilities Department of the Education Ministry completed the construction works. Of them, 22 primary schools and two madrasas were constructed in greater Pabna, 18 primary schools and one madrasa in greater Bogra and 44 primary schools and three madrasas in greater Rajshahi districts.

About 45,000 children will get the opportunity of primary education with the construction of the educational institutions, the sources added.

## Dacoits loot cash, kind from truck

Dacoits ambushed a convoy of trucks carrying cows and firewood at Babuti Bhadrachal on the New Bogra Road and looted cash and kind after midnight Saturday.

The robbers, numbering about 14-15, armed with lethal weapons put up barricades on the road and swooped on the trucks. They decamped with Taka 7,300 and firewood worth Taka 45,000, police and witnesses said.

The bandits, however, could not take away the cows. At least eight passengers

were injured, one of them seriously, during the holdup. Sirajul Islam, 60, is under treatment at the Sirajganj Hospital.

Upon hearing a hue and cry, villagers of the neighbouring area rushed to the scene for rescue. The dacoits fled the scene with the booties.

A case has been filed with the sadar thana.

A similar dacoity was committed on the road at Pachliya two days ago, villagers said.

## Passengers robbed of Tk 50,000

Another news from Khulna adds: A gang of dacoits robbed Taka 50,000 from the passengers of a night coach near Fultala on Jessore-Khulna highway on Saturday night, reports UNB.

The dacoits in guise of passengers boarded on the Khulna bound Druti Paribahan at about 9.30 pm from Jessore bus stand and swooped on the passengers near Fultala at 11 pm, police said.

The looters also snatched away a revolver from one of the passengers. He was named as Nazimuddin, police said.

A case was filed with the local police.

## Handloom sector needs protection

From Our Correspondent

Indian sarees in terms of quality.

Besides this competition problem, prices of raw materials like yarn, chemicals, dyes have risen abnormally.

The government hospital Chandpur town is in poor condition seriously affecting the medicare services.

According to sources, lack of adequate number of doctors, medicines and medical apparatus is hampering smooth functioning of the hospital. In addition to these, there is no blood bank, child ward in the hospital.

Patients, who receive

## Reception to social worker

SHARIATPUR, Feb 14: Bangladesh College University Teachers' Association has accorded a reception to noted social worker Dr KA Jalil as part of its programme to accord receptions to eminent personalities, reports BSS.

Eminent educationist Dr Ashraf Siddiqi attended the function as the chief guest here on February 7.

treatment at the hospital, say the doctors do not visit them regularly due to which patients who are seriously ill suffer most.

Medicines are said to be scarce. Those which are available at outside are also said to be quite expensive.

The accommodation problem in the hospital has been prevailing for a long time. Patients are housed on lobby floor giving little room for passage. The beds are also in poor condition. Some are broken, and some are just left half repaired. Bed sheets and pillow covers are rarely changed, worsening the atmosphere.

The hospital had sufficient number of medical apparatus but these have become out of order for want of proper care.

The only ambulance for the hospital has been lying out of order for quite a long time and no efforts were underway to replace that.

About 25 lakh people of the district depend on the services from this hospital since private clinics at the town are in small number. If this condition continues to prevail, pains of the patients will keep on growing.



MUNSHIGANJ: Wing Commander (Retd) Hamidullah Khan, MP, local DC, SP and BNP workers are at the site of Louhajang-Gandia Diversion Road. They are talking with the measurement team of the road. -Star photo

## More people take up Family Planning method

COMILLA, Feb 14: The Comilla branch of Family Planning Association of Bangladesh (FPAB) has raised the number of its active users to 21,850, reports UNB.

The FPAB has been conducting its operation through its service delivery project in Comilla town and its surrounding areas.

Methodwise acceptance during 1993 was: Conventional - 4,706, Injectables - 1632, IUD - 270, Sterilization - 421. The contraceptive prevalence rate raised to 59.20 per cent, the sources said.

Another message adds: Silver Jubilee of the district Rotary Club was held in the Shilpakala auditorium on Wednesday.

The function was presided over by president of the Club Rtn Muinul Ahasan while Director General of BARD Rtn Dr Salauddin Ahmed attended as the chief guests. The special guests in the function were Rtn MA Bhuiyan, Rtn a Gafur.

## 34 uplift projects under implementation this yr

DAUDKANDI (Comilla), Feb 14: Thirty-four projects are being implemented at a cost of about Taka 78 lakh in Daudkandi thana under Comilla district this year, according to an official handout on Sunday, reports BSS.

Eight agriculture projects are being implemented at a cost of Taka 6,70,000, thirteen communications and transportation projects at a cost of Taka 3,50,000, and seven physical infrastructure development projects are being implemented at a cost of Taka 2,60,000.

This was stated at the third meeting of Daudkandi Thana Development Coordination Committee held at Daudkandi thana conference hall.

Shipping Minister M K Anwar and Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khandakar Mosharraf Hossain attended the meeting as the advisors.

Presided over by Chairman

of Sundarpur union parishad Abul Kashem, the meeting was attended by the union parishad chairmen and the officials of Daudkandi thana.

The meeting was informed that five unions of Daudkandi and Homna thana namely Barakanda, Gobindapur, Luterchar, Chandanpur and Radhanagar are being separated from the mainland by the mighty Meghna, Gumti and Kathalia rivers and people of these areas are being deprived of the facilities of electricity. The meeting expressed opinion for undertaking a special project to extend rural electrification programme to those areas.

The meeting was also informed that river communication is seriously being disrupted due to the siltation in the Gumti river from the Daudkandi sadar to seven miles upstream of the river. The meeting felt the necessity of dredging of the river soon.



NETRAKONA: Ms Haily, Lecturer, University of Turkey in Finland discussing the life and works of Sirajuddin Kashimpuri at a function arranged during a fortnight-long poush mela and cultural programme held at Moktarpara field recently. -Star photo

## Pirates loot Tk 10 lakh valuables from eight fishing trawlers

PATUAKHALI, Feb 14: A daring trawler dacoity was committed in Bay of Bengal 100 kilometers south-west of Pathorghata in which pirates took away valuables worth about Taka 10 lakhs from eight fishing trawlers on Thursday night, reports BSS.

The pirates numbering about 20 to 25 with deadly weapons suddenly attacked a fleet of fishing trawlers, beat the fishermen and took away fishes, fishing nets and engine parts worth about Taka 10 lakh from 8 fishing trawlers.

Eight fishermen were injured. They were given first aid from Pathorghata hospital.

According to fishermen the pirates came in an Indian fishing trawler.

Among the eight plundered fishing trawlers were F B Mostafa, F B Meghai, E B Jalor, and F B Karuna.

Another report adds: Property worth about Taka 2 lakh were burnt to ashes and two persons were injured, one of them seriously in a devastating fire at the house of one Gazi Delwar Hossain of village Sunda Kali-Kapoor under Mirzaganj thana of the district on Friday night.

The fire originated from the Kitchen of the house and engulfed the house quickly.

## Indian gets 12 years RI for possessing arms

DINAJPUR, Feb 14: An Indian national was awarded 12 years rigorous imprisonment for possessing illegal arms and ammunition, reports UNB.

The Assistant Sessions and Special Judge also fined the convict Dipu Das (22) Taka 5,000 or in default to suffer another six months, court sources said.

The prosecution story, in brief, was that acting on a tip, the BDR personnel raided a Dinajpur bound bus at Bashudebpur Nowpara in hilly border area rounded up Dipu Das and recovered one revolver and six rounds of ammunition from his possession on May 21 in the last year.

Later, a case was filed with Hakimpur police and he was chargesheeted accordingly. After examining the records

## Paddy procurement fails to achieve target

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Feb 14: Paddy procurement drive in Sirajganj district has failed to achieve target during the current season due to lower purchasing rate at the government godowns.

It is learnt that during the current season, target of paddy procurement in the district was fixed at 2500 metric tons but during last two months only two metric tons of paddy were purchased in the godowns of nine thanas.

The Department of Food inaugurated purchase of paddy on November 15 with wide publicity. The rate of paddy with 14 per cent moisture was fixed at Taka 210 per maund.

The rate is not suitable for procurement as paddy and rice are being sold at Taka 250 and Taka 450 per maund respectively in the local markets.

The farmers are not interested to sell paddy at the godowns due to complexity and unusual delay of payment.

Another report says: Sirajganj Zila Parishad has

taken up a scheme to develop a road in Belkuchi thana at the estimated cost of Taka 14 lakh during the current fiscal year.

Under the scheme, 1000 meter road from Subarnasara Eidgah Field to Tamal High School Field will be made reconstructed at a cost of Taka 14 lakh. The work will be done as a part of developing Belkuchi Karnarkhanda road.

Meanwhile, spare parts of Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC) amounting to Taka 10,50,000 have been sold at Taka 35,000 only at Raiganj thana.

It is gathered that spare parts of deep, shallow tube-wells and other equipment of Raiganj BADC office were sold in auction. The government price of auction was Taka 10,50,000 but the highest bidder declared Taka 35,000 only. The authority sold the materials to the highest bidder which have created curiosity among the people.

## District roundup

### B'BARIA

#### Village cakes sold in unhygienic condition

Feb 14: Open sale and preparation of winter village cake (pitha) and sweet (jilapi) in the roadside shops in an unhygienic way have been causing health hazards, reports UNB.

Meanwhile, after taking the pitha and jilapi many consumers have been reported suffering from serious stomach disorders.

It may be mentioned here that the pitha and jilapi are no doubt loved by all for its comparatively low cost. But these are prepared in most unhygienic manner due to the ignorance of the makers. They keep the pitha and jilapi open to draw the attraction of the customers at the crowded market and the flies and other insects sit on it and dust gathers causing health hazards.

Local people said, in the urban areas pitha and jilapi are sold at an average rate of Tk one per piece and Tk 30 per kg respectively in the restaurants.

But in the villages and roadside shops jilapi are being sold at Taka 20 per kg which are of low quality.

Local people urged the authorities to stop the selling of such unhygienic foodstuff without further delay.

### COMILLA

#### Tk 21.43 lakh contraband goods seized in one month

Feb 14: Bangladesh Rifles arrested 25 people and recovered contraband goods worth about Tk 21.43 lakh in past one month, official sources said, reports UNB.

The 29th battalion of the BDR posted in Comilla seized those goods from different border areas in separate raids.

The goods seized while being smuggled into the country were worth Tk 21.28 lakh and those seized while being smuggled out of the country were worth Tk 14,075.

The contraband goods include, saree, pulses, blouse piece, cosmetics, timber, sugar, spices, spares, VCR, VCP, salt, onion, were handed over to the local customs officials.

Nineteen cases were filed in this connection.

### JAMALPUR

#### Krishi Mela concludes

Feb 14: A three-day Krishi Mela under the auspices of District Agriculture Extension Department was concluded at Khamarbari of the town with much enthusiasm on Thursday, reports UNB.

In the exhibition, several stalls were set up with notable exhibits on agri products, pisciculture, handicrafts, horticulture, livestock and modern agri-equipment.

Farmers from seven thanas of the district including cross section of people visited the stall.

The exhibition was formally inaugurated by Regional Director of Agriculture Department Poresh Chandra Das.

On the concluding day Deputy Director of Jamalpur Agri zone Nazmul Hossain distributed prizes among the participants for their exhibits.

### COMILLA

#### One awarded 7 years RI

Feb 14: A man was awarded seven years rigorous imprisonment with a fine of Taka 1,000, in default, to suffer another six months for possessing illegal arms, reports UNB.

The case, in brief, was that Shamsu Mia of Burichang thana was wanted in connection with several criminal cases but he was absconding.

On February 18, 1992 he was arrested from the Gumti embankment with the help of the local people. Police also recovered a beyonnet from his possession. Later he was handed over to Burichang thana.

After examining the witnesses and records, Md Habibur Rahman, Assistant Sessions Judge, First Court and Special Tribunal No 3 awarded the punishment last week.

### COMILLA

#### Bus terminals in bad shape

Feb 14: The bus terminals of the district are in bad shape due to lack of care and maintenance, reports UNB.

At present two open space, one at Chawkbazar and the other at Shashangacha, are being used as the bus terminals in the district where hundreds of buses ply from these terminals to various destinations.

But none of the terminals has any passenger-sheds or adequate arrangement for toilet facilities. As there is no sheds for systematic parking, the vehicles are parked here and there creating much trouble.

Besides, the terminal at Shashangacha becomes unfit for use during the rainy season.

The passengers and motor workers alleged the annual income of the terminal is quite satisfactory but no attempts were found to have been taken to remove the difficulties.

The bus terminal at Chawkbazar is under the control of Comilla Pourashava and Shashangacha is controlled by Comilla Zila Parishad.

### SIRAJGANJ

#### Two killed in road accidents

Feb 14: Two children were killed in two separate road accidents on the Bogra-Nagarbari road Saturday, reports UNB.

The victims were identified as Rafiqul, 12, of village Sarishakoi in Shahajadpur and Morzina, 8, of village Chandakona in Raiganj.

Police and witnesses said, both the victims were hit by two Bogra-bound trucks from Nagarbari while crossing the road near their villages. They died on the spot.

The drivers managed to flee the scene along with the vehicles.

Two separate cases were filed with the local police.

### BRAHMANBARIA

#### Dacoits loot valuables

Feb 14: Dacoits looted valuables worth about Taka one lakh from Ashuganj Power Development Centre on February 5, reports UNB.

According to witnesses, a gang of dacoits numbering about eight armed with lethal weapons entered the centre by breaking open the lock and tied up the two on duty night guards. They decamped with two VCRs, a TV set, one two in one and other movables, local people said.

A case was lodged with the police.