

Mass telegram programme for Sylhet division

From Our Correspondent

SYLHET, Feb 15: The Mass Telegram Sending Programme pressing for immediate formation of Sylhet division, begins here today.

More than 50 telegrams have been sent to the Prime Minister today demanding a new administrative infrastructure in Sylhet — comprising the four districts of the region.

The programme was earlier announced by the Division Implementation and Greater Sylhet Development Action Council.

Sending of telegrams to the PM will continue till March 10.

Meanwhile, the Greater Sylhet Gonodabi Parishad has called upon the government to declare Sylhet a division by March 31. Otherwise, the parishad will go for a fresh agitation programme, it said.

Case against Suranjit dismissed

From Our Correspondent

SYLHET, Feb 15: Sylhet Sadar Thana Magistrate today dismissed a case filed against the Ganotantri Party leader Suranjit Sengupta, MP.

The case was filed on January 25 by Abdul Matin of village Barokandi accusing the leader of provoking Muslim religious sentiment at a public meeting here.

The court dismissed the case after hearing today.

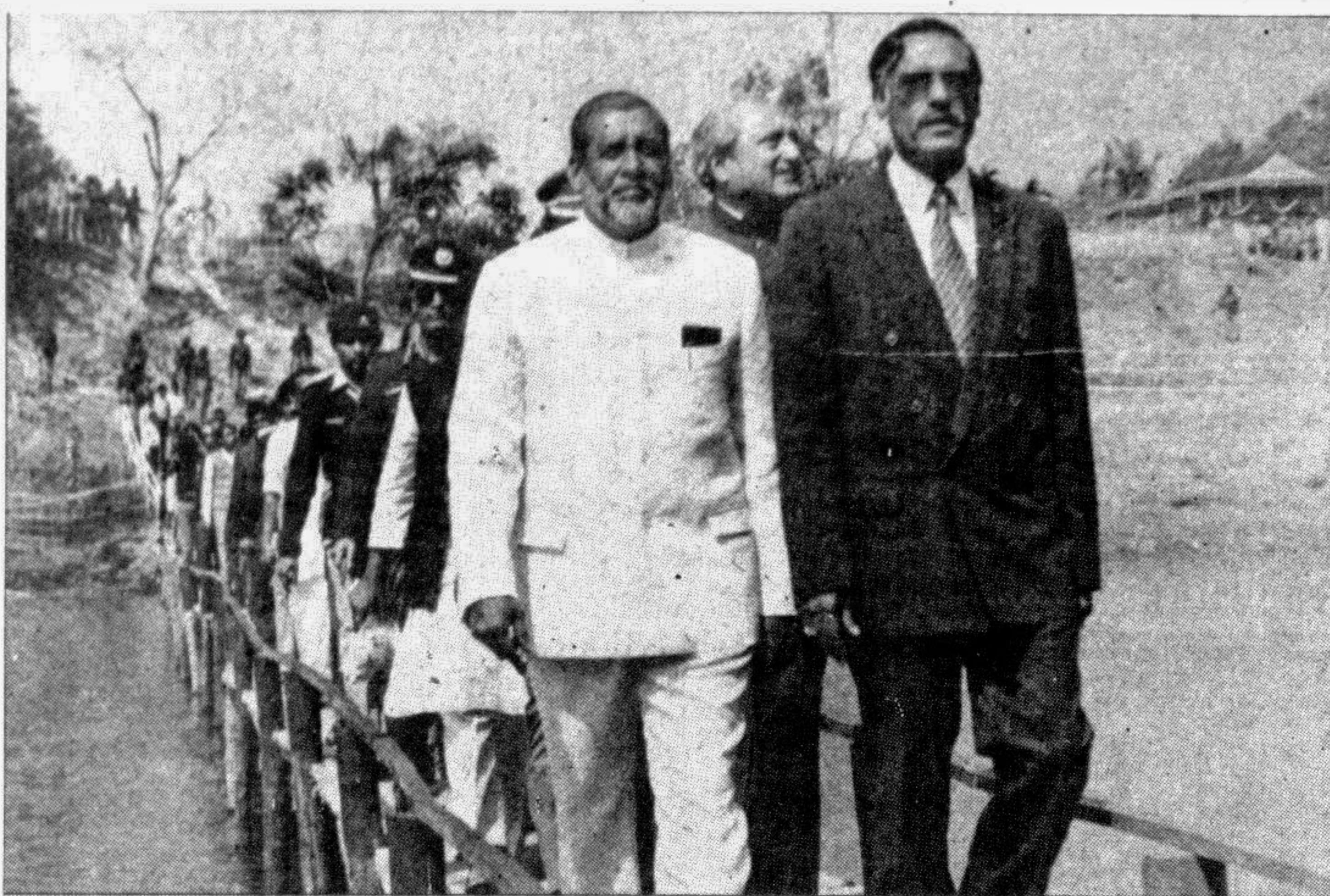
Advocate Giasuddin moved for the complainant while Advocate Mofur Ali and others stood for the defence.

Best teacher of Lakshmipur

From A Correspondent

Mohd Abul Kashem Bhuiyan, MA, B Ed, Senior Teacher of Raipur L M Pilot High School, has been awarded as the best teacher of Lakshmipur district recently.

In a prize-giving ceremony on the occasion of the 'Education Week '94' observed here, the function was presided over by the President of the Education Week Observation Committee and DC of Lakshmipur district Chittaranjan Barua.



Indian Union State Minister, P M Syed (bearded), Tripura Governor Ramesh Bhandari and Oli Ahmed, Communications Minister of Bangladesh government are seen crossing the bridge on river Feni to reach Ramgarh during the repatriation of Chakma refugees from evacuee camps in India that began on February 15.

Grant to 100 institutions stopped for irregularities

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, Feb 16: Government grant to about 100 educational institutions has been suspended for major irregularities, it is reported.

As a result, teachers of those institutions have been passing through crisis.

Rajshahi Education Board recently investigated the non-government institutions of different districts.

During inspections, the investigation teams found a lot of irregularities in different institutions.

Considering the reports, education board stopped government grant to over hundred of such institutions.

The institutions included two colleges, 17 high schools and 10 Madrasahs.

The colleges are: Gaibandha Adarsha College and Tulshighat

S H College.

The high schools are: Modern High School, Islamia High School, Khidir-Sharif Al-Wahedia High School, Khorda Malibari High School, Konerpara High School, Kamarjani Boys and Girls High Schools, P K Junior High School, Chapadaha High School, Rahamatpur Girls High School, Ballamjhar Girls High School, Raghunathpur, Bisnupur, Pearapur, Kholahati High Schools, Daryapur Boys and Girls High Schools.

The affected madrasahs are: Siddiquia, Ghagha, Bithunia, Khidir Sharif, Hat Laxmipur, Kamarjani, Kuptola, Chapadaha Orphanage, Dhutichora madrasahs.

Meanwhile education board has issued show cause notices to those institutes for discrepancies in school fund, bank security, documentary irregularities and worst academic results.

The banks stopped disbursement of government grant to the schools from December 93.

Another report says: Law and order situation is deteriorating in the district gradually.

This was expressed at the last monthly district conference on law and order situation.

According to report, the criminal cases lying with different police stations stood at 692 during the year 1993.

Of that, nine dacoity, 79 burglary, 53 theft, 35 murder, 112 clash, 9 murder with clash, 7 kidnap and violence, 24 smuggling and 24 other cases were filed with respective police stations.

9 stabbed in Jessore

JESSORE, Feb 17: Sporadic clashes between two rival student groups here since Wednesday left nine stabbed, reports UNB.

Police said the clash erupted between the activists of the Chhatra League and Chhatra Moltry-Juba Moltry allegedly over filling of tender at the PWD office on Wednesday.

Juba Moltry leader Muna was injured when rival Chhatra League activists stabbed him at the PWD office at about 11 am yesterday.

The Juba Moltry and Chhatra Moltry activists stabbed a Chhatra League leader, Aslam Hossain, at noon.

Chhatra League activists stabbed two Juba Moltry workers in the same evening. In the sequel, six other Chhatra League leaders and workers were stabbed in different parts of the town today. They are Tapash, Mahmud, Asaduzzaman, Zahidul Islam, Kishore and Saiful.

All the injured were admitted to Sadar Hospital.

A meeting between the Awami League, Workers' Party and their front organisations at the Police Super office agreed to take necessary steps to avert further violence.

Sale of wine, narcotics open in Satkhira

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, Feb 16: The sale of ganja, wine, rectified spirit, and other narcotics and exhibition of blue films have been causing moral degradation of youths in the district.

It is informed that narcotics and liquor are being sold openly in different shops of Satkhira town and at other thana headquarters.

There is an office for narcotics, and liquor control at the district headquarters with full-fledged staff whose main duty is to check the illegal sale of liquor.

The drug addiction among the youths of Satkhira district has increased for the last few months while the blue films are being exhibited by the mobile units of different unlicensed video clubs of the district.

The district town plunges into darkness just after sunset

as most of the street light posts contain fused bulbs.

It is further alleged that the fused bulbs in the by-lanes are rarely replaced. The residents of the pourasava pay heavy tax but they are deprived of the facilities. It is difficult to move after sunset in the pourasava area for want of street lights.

The roads of the pourasava remain dirty while during rainy seasons water remains stagnant on the roads. Most of the roads are narrow and in absence of street lights accidents occur very often.

A man was killed and valuables worth about Taka one lakh were looted in a daring dacoity in a house at village Bagbati in Kaliganj thana on Sunday night.

On hearing the hue and cry, the villagers rushed to the spot and the dacoits threw hand bombs at them killing one Haridas on the spot.

District roundup

BARISAL

Massive road development project

Feb 18: Government has sanctioned 1,816 metric tons of wheat for the implementation of 97 projects in Barisal district under Food-for-Work Programme (WFP) during current season, reports BSS.

According to an official source, projects include the construction of 90 roads, re-excavation of three ponds and levelling of four playgrounds.

Of the total, 179 metric tons of wheat will be spent for the construction of 11 roads in Barisal sadar thana, 262 metric tons for 15 roads in Bakerganj, 233 metric tons for 14 roads in Mehendiganj, 212 metric tons for 11 roads and for re-excavation of one pond in Wazirpur, 157 metric tons for seven roads and for re-excavation of one pond in Muladi, 147 metric tons for three roads and levelling of one playground in Hiza, 167 metric tons for six roads and levelling of one ground in Agailghara, 140 metric tons for eight roads in Banaripara, about 176 metric tons for nine roads, re-excavation of one pond and levelling of one playground in Gournadi and 148 metric tons for six roads and levelling of one playground in Babuganj thana.

Work on these projects has already started and will be completed within April next, the source added.

JHENIDAH

One killed, 4 injured in road accident

Feb 18: One person was killed and four others were injured critically in a road accident near Jhenidah Cadet College on Jhenidah-Kushia highway Tuesday, reports UNB.

The victim, passenger of a Jhenidah-bound bus, was identified as Bulbul, 20, who succumbed to injuries at Jhenidah sadar hospital.

The injured are undergoing treatment at the same hospital.

Witnesses said the accident occurred when the passenger bus hit a standing truck loaded with paddy near Jhenidah Cadet College.

PABNA

Journalist assaulted

Feb 18: The District Correspondent of Dainik Dinkal Abdul Hamid Khan was assaulted by a group of persons at the Judge Court premises on Tuesday, reports UNB.

Journalists of the Pabna Press Club at an emergency meeting with club president Yasin Ali Mridha in the chair condemned the assault and demanded punishment of those responsible.

The speakers held the local BNP leader Md Abdul Mannan Master and his supporters responsible for the attack.

TANGAIL

Inter-district gang members arrested

Feb 18: Police arrested sixteen persons including two women from different places of Tangail on Monday and recovered two pipe guns and a machete from them, reports BSS.

Police said, they were looking for these people in connection with a dacoity case that was committed recently in village Bangshinagar under Mirzapur thana. During the dacoity two persons were killed in gunfire. Police said, these persons belong to inter-district gang.

Hundreds of people visited Tangail thana Tuesday to see these people.

SIRAJGANJ

Three killed in road mishap

From Our Correspondent

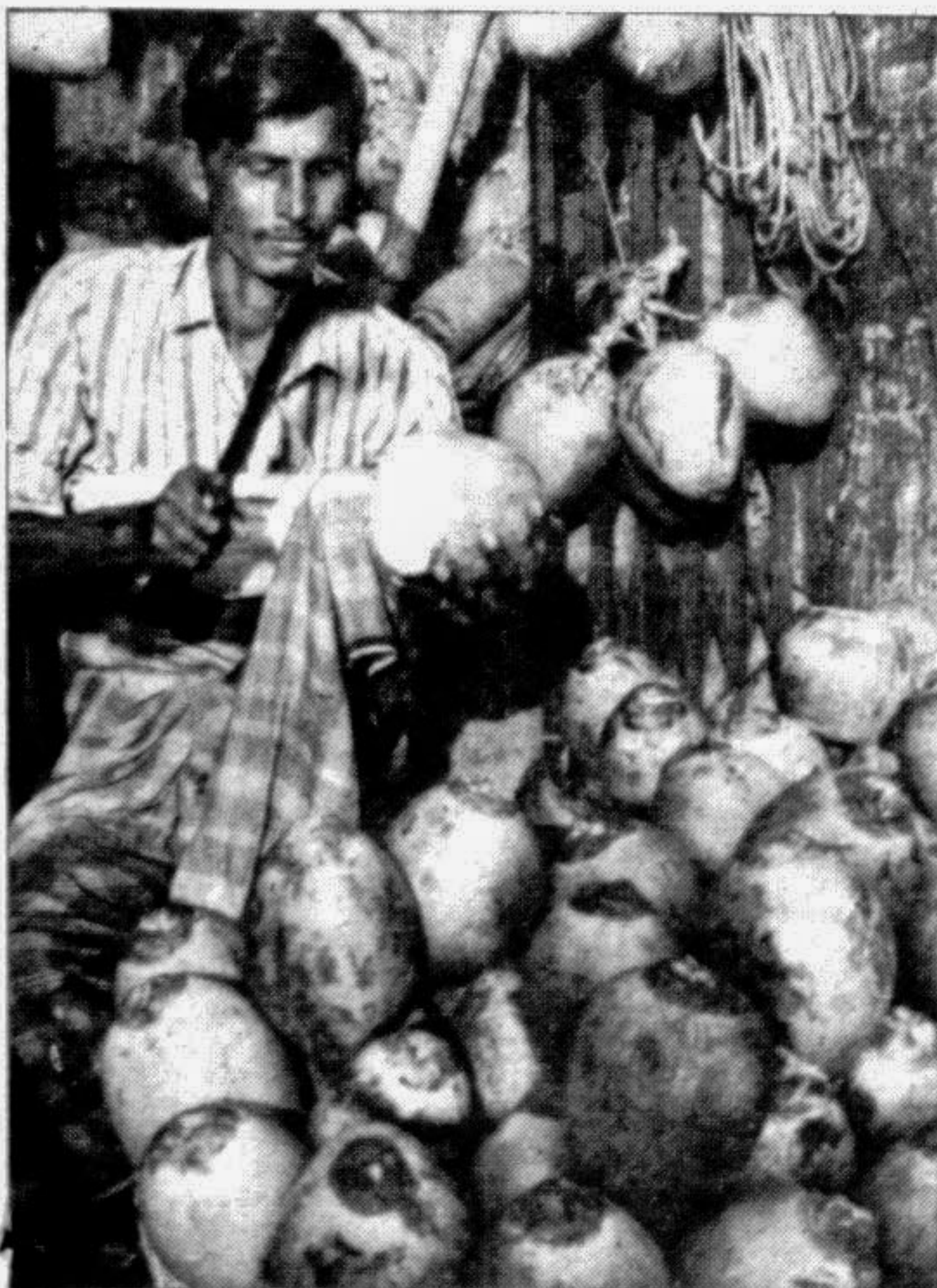
Feb 18: Three persons were killed and eight were injured in a road accident of Newargachha in Ullapara thana recently.

It is gathered that a Dhaka bound bus from Bogra collided head-on with a truck on North Bengal highway. Shs dead were identified as Wazedur Rahman, 40, of Akkelpur, Abul Hossain, 55, and Jainal Abedin, 45, of Kahatu in Bogra district. Condition of six injured persons was stated to be critical.

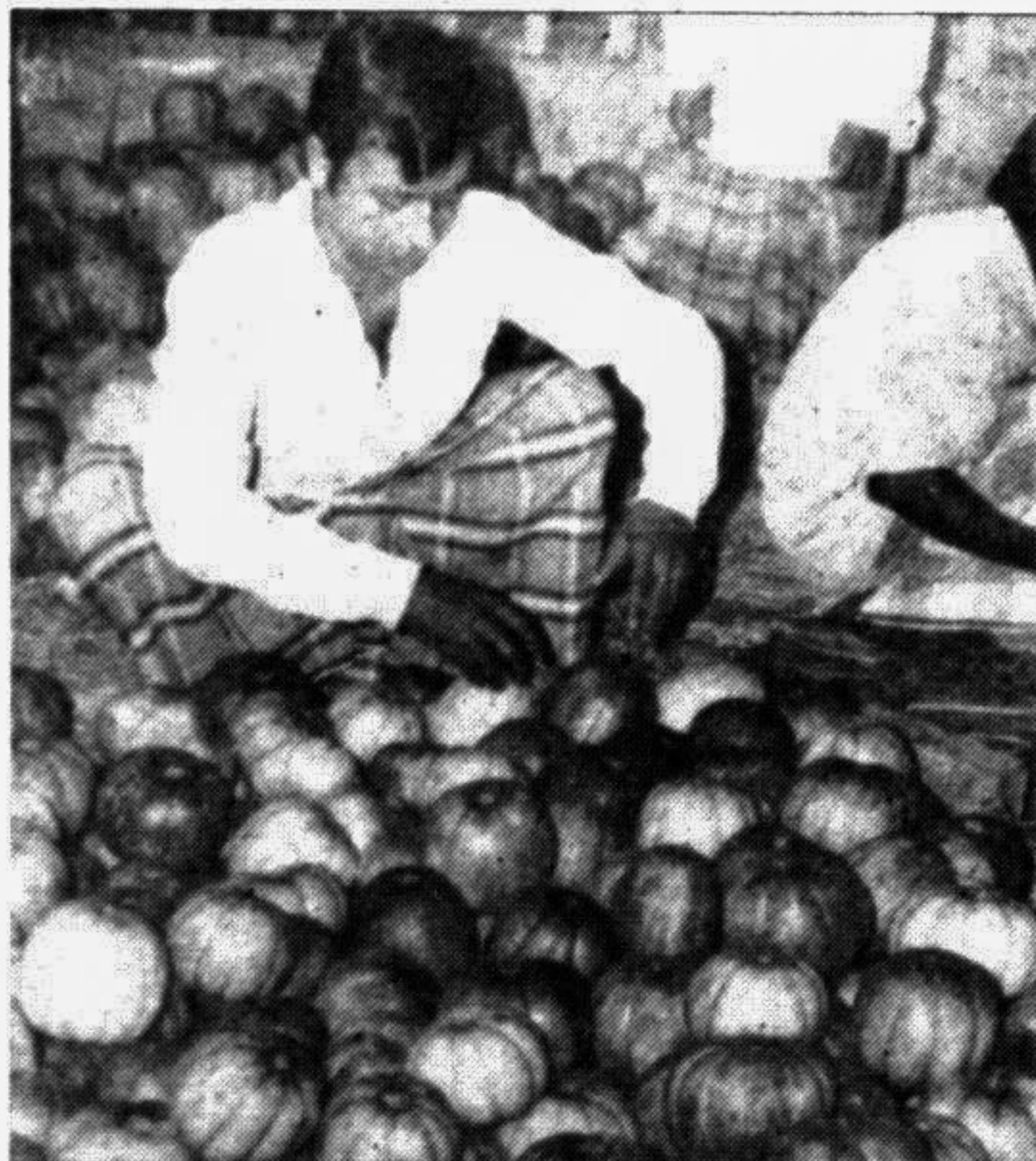
Photo report

Fruits in the city markets

From this week, we launch another new feature for our readers' pleasure. Every Saturday, on this page, we will publish a photo report on a subject that touches our daily life. What could be a better subject to start with than the variety of fruits that are now delighting the hearts, and not to mention, the palate, of our fruit lovers all over the country. Winter's special fruits, coupled with several imported ones, brought especially for the holy month of Ramadan make the Dhaka markets a shoppers' paradise. In the photos, The Daily Star's chief photographer AKM Mohsin catches in his camera frames, a few of the more popular varieties now available in the market.



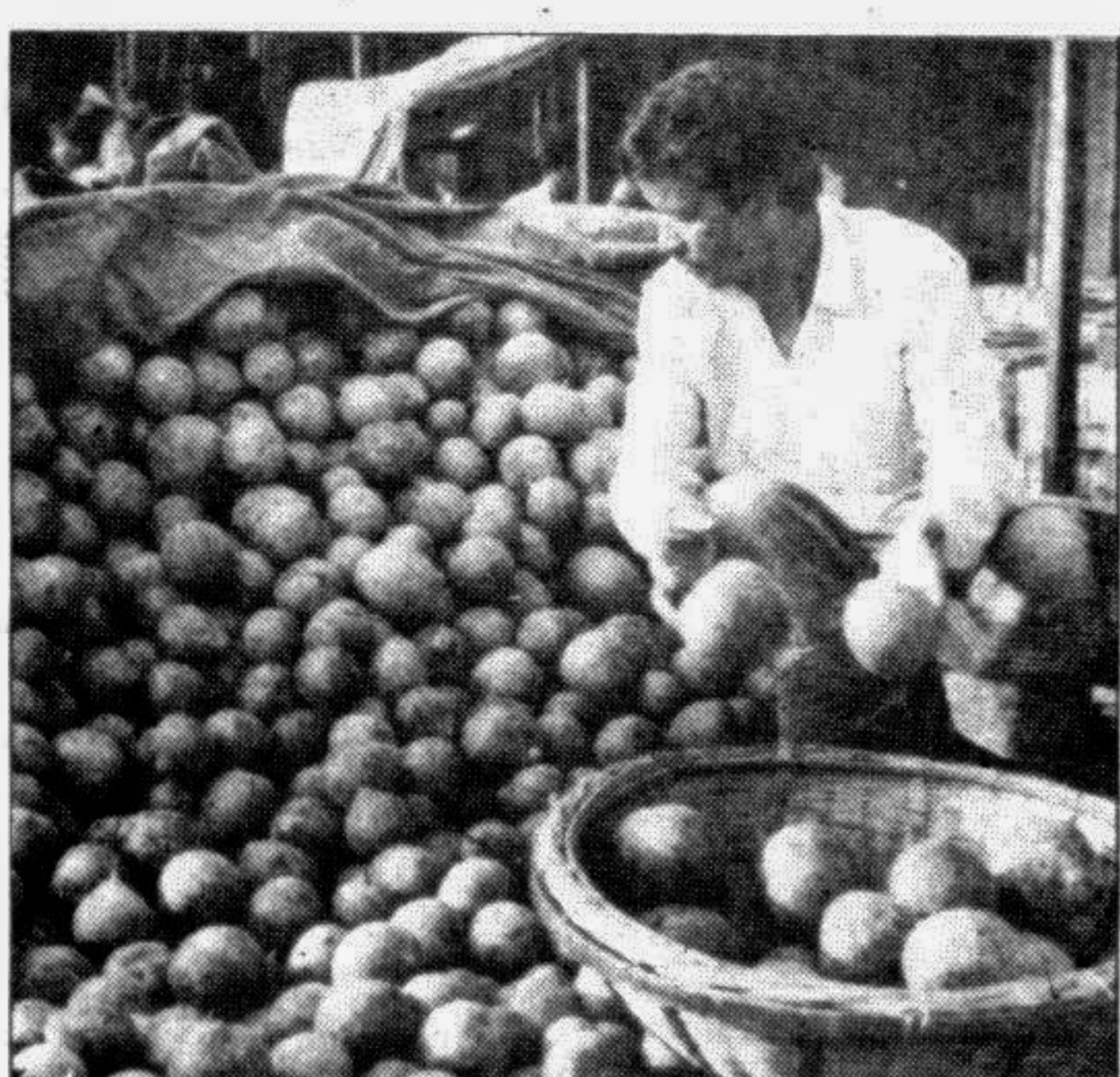
Green coconut



Bangi, a kind of melon



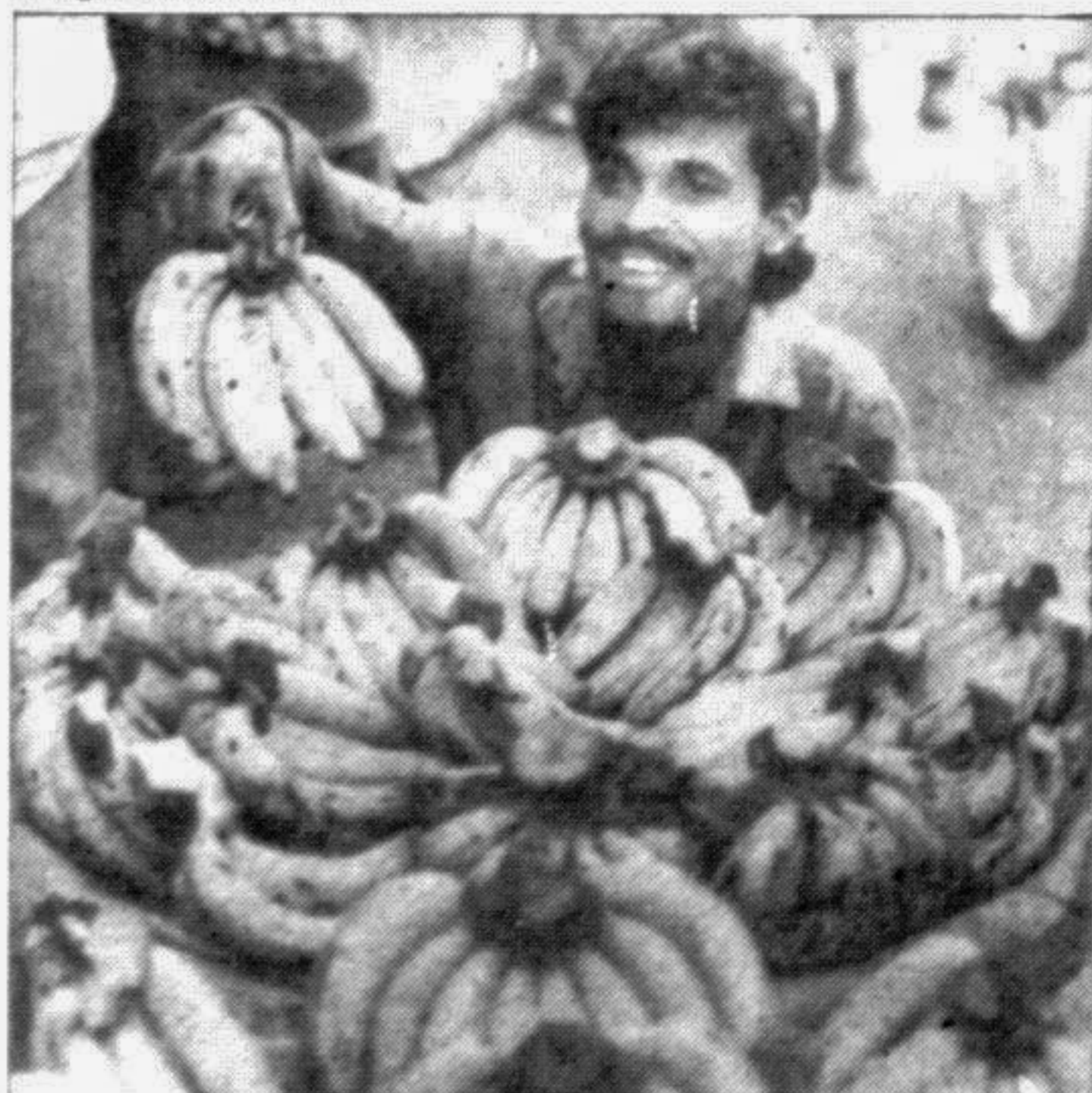
Water melon



Woodapple (Bell in Bangla)



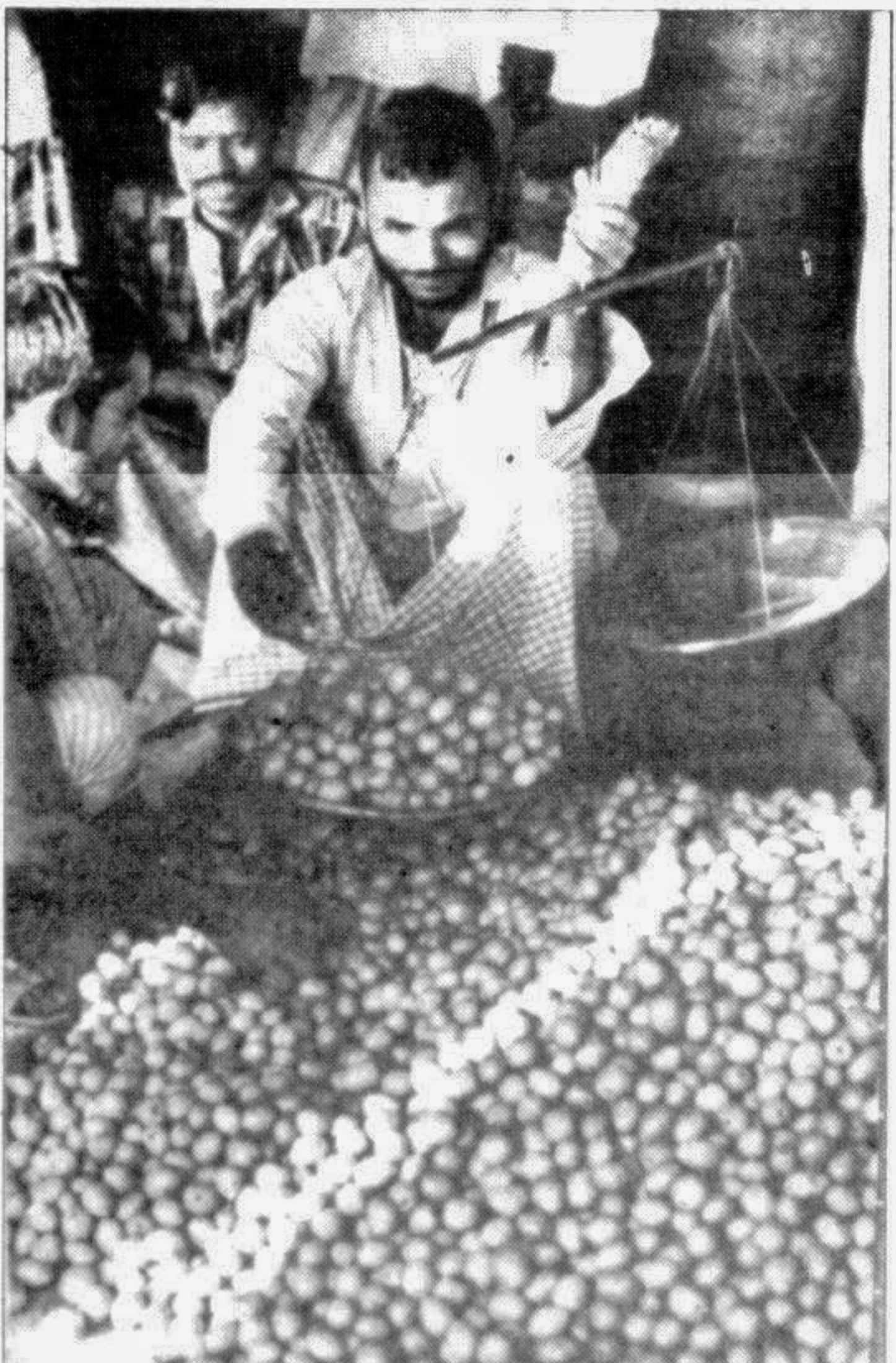
Orange



Banana



Grapes, dry dates, apples and oranges



Plum