

### River erosion renders 35 lakh homeless

BHOLA, Apr 4: About 35 lakh families have been rendered homeless during the last 35 years by the continuous erosion of the mighty rivers in different parts of the country, reports UNB.

This was revealed by a Dhaka-based NGO survey report read out at a seminar held in Barisal recently.

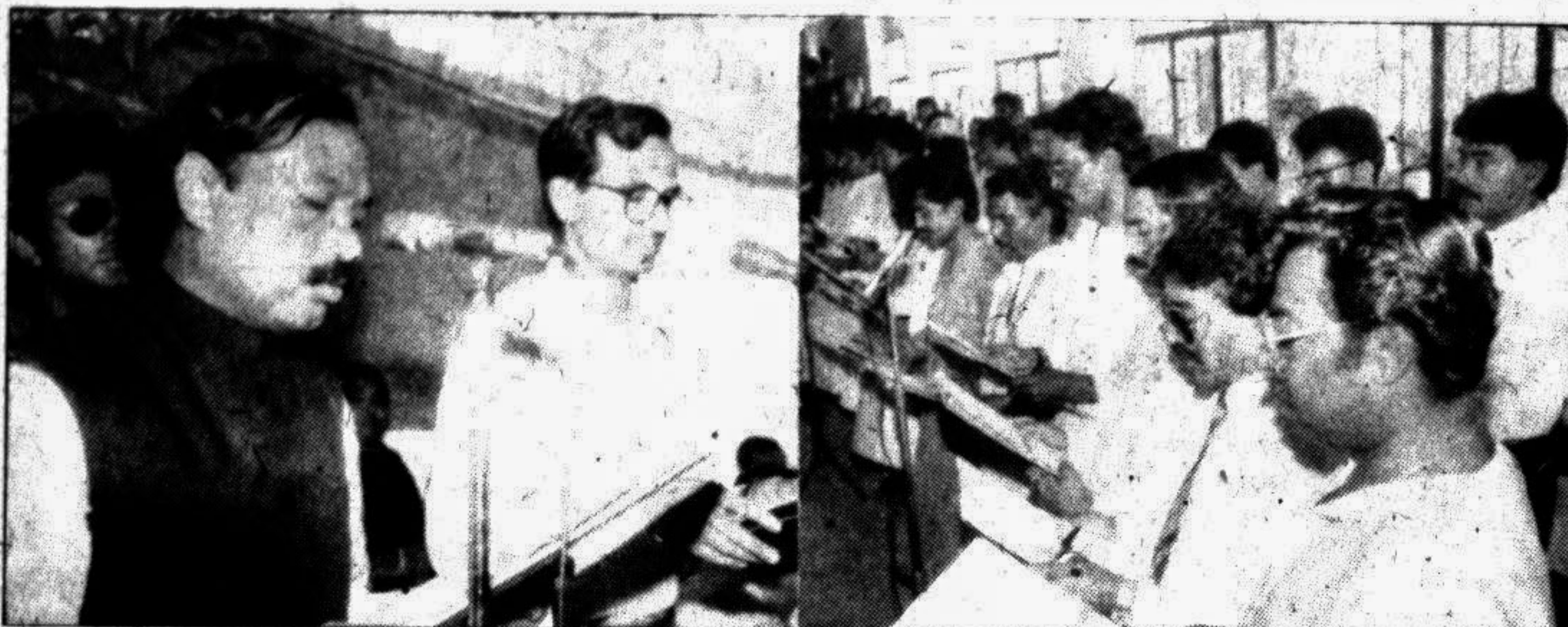
Bangladesh Development Partnership Centre conducted the survey in Bhola, Barisal, Patuakhali, Faridpur, Sirajganj, Madaripur and Sylhet districts.

The report said the number of erosion affected people is increasing alarmingly and every year two lakh people are rendered shelterless.

It said during the last five-year period from 1990 to 1994 about 5.5 lakh acres of land have been devoured by the rivers Padma, Meghna, Jamuna, Brahmaputra, Teesta, Arial Khan, Dhorola and Kushira.

Thousands of people affected by erosion have not been rehabilitated and they are living a miserable floating life here and there.

The survey report also said but the affected people cannot be given lands on priority basis in emerging chars and the influential people take chance to grab these lands.



SYLHET: Newly elected chairman of Sylhet Pourashava and 21 ward commissioners taking oath at a function here Sunday. Deputy Commissioner administered the oath. — Star photo

### Dhaka-Aricha highway 50 injured in clashes over toll collection

MANIKGANJ, Apr 4: At least 50 people were injured in several clashes centering collection of tolls at Uthali in Shibaiya thana on Dhaka-Aricha highway between the transport workers and the local mastans in the last few days, reports UNB.

The Inter-district Truck Drivers Union said a gang of miscreants regularly intercept Dhaka-bound trucks carrying cattle, rice, onion etc from Aricha ghat at Uthali on the highway and extort money from them causing tremendous hardship to the businessmen.

Whenever they refuse to pay the tolls the hoodlums attack the vehicles leading to the clashes with the transport workers of the area and during the last few days 50 people were injured in several clashes, they added.

The truck drivers and businessmen alleged that an organised gang patronised by local influential quarters is engaged in collecting tolls at random. A Dhaka-bound truck carrying cattle is to pay Tk 205 and a Chittagong-bound truck from Aricha Tk 400, they added.

Small traders complained that they are under the grip of this organised gang. The toll collectors are giving a receipt of Tk 50 only after realising Tk 400, they added.

Local truck owners said, the mastans swoop on the trucks and extort money in front of the law enforcing agencies and after repeated complaints no action has yet been taken by the concerned authority.

They also alleged that those who refuse to pay tolls their vehicles were not allowed by the mastans to ply on the highway.

The transport union leaders and the businessmen urged the higher authorities to probe the matter and take immediate steps in this regard.

### Frequent loadshedding hits production in CHT

From Our Correspondent

RANGAMATI, Apr 4: Frequent loadshedding in all the towns and areas of the Chittagong Hill Tracts region has been hampering production in mills and factories besides making life miserable.

Local people alleged that supply of electricity is now-a-days insufficient to meet the minimum requirement of the people.

Frequent and prolonged disruption of electricity has been hampering the normal production in several tea-gardens, rice mills, ice factories, hundreds of saw mills, thousands of furniture manufacturing shops as well as small and cottage industries including

### Prospects for Boro harvest bleak in Rangpur

From Our Correspondent

RANGPUR, Apr 4: The prospects for Boro harvest are bleak in the district due to scarcity of irrigation water and fertilizers particularly urea.

There was a target to put 63,100 hectares of land under Boro cultivation during the current season in the district. But so far about 80 per cent targeted area have been covered by its cultivation while the rest areas are left abandoned in absence of irrigation facilities.

Meanwhile, the standing Boro crop field in vast areas are now facing acute scarcity of irrigation water as hundreds of pumps have already gone out of order due to abnormal fall in the underground water level.

According to the reports pouring here from across the district, most of the water sources — rivers, ponds, tanks, canals and beels — have been dried up. This has further aggravated the situation.

Moreover, the farmers have been badly affected owing to the urea fertilizer crisis.

A 50-kg bag of urea in peak period was sold at Taka 500 to taka 600 as against its original price below Taka 200.

Due to high rates and non-availability, the economically squeezed farmers could not spray urea in their Boro fields timely and even as per proportion.

In vast areas the standing Boro field have been turned into yellow for the lack of required urea and irrigation water, while in the char and high land areas it is being withered away.

The agriculturist here are apprehending a gloomy prospect of Boro crop which might fall short of target to a great extent during the current season.

### Training on soil resources ends at BAU

MYMENSINGH, Apr 4: A four-day advanced training course on 'Guidelines of Using Land and Soil Resources' was concluded at the Bangladesh Agricultural University on Sunday, reports UNB.

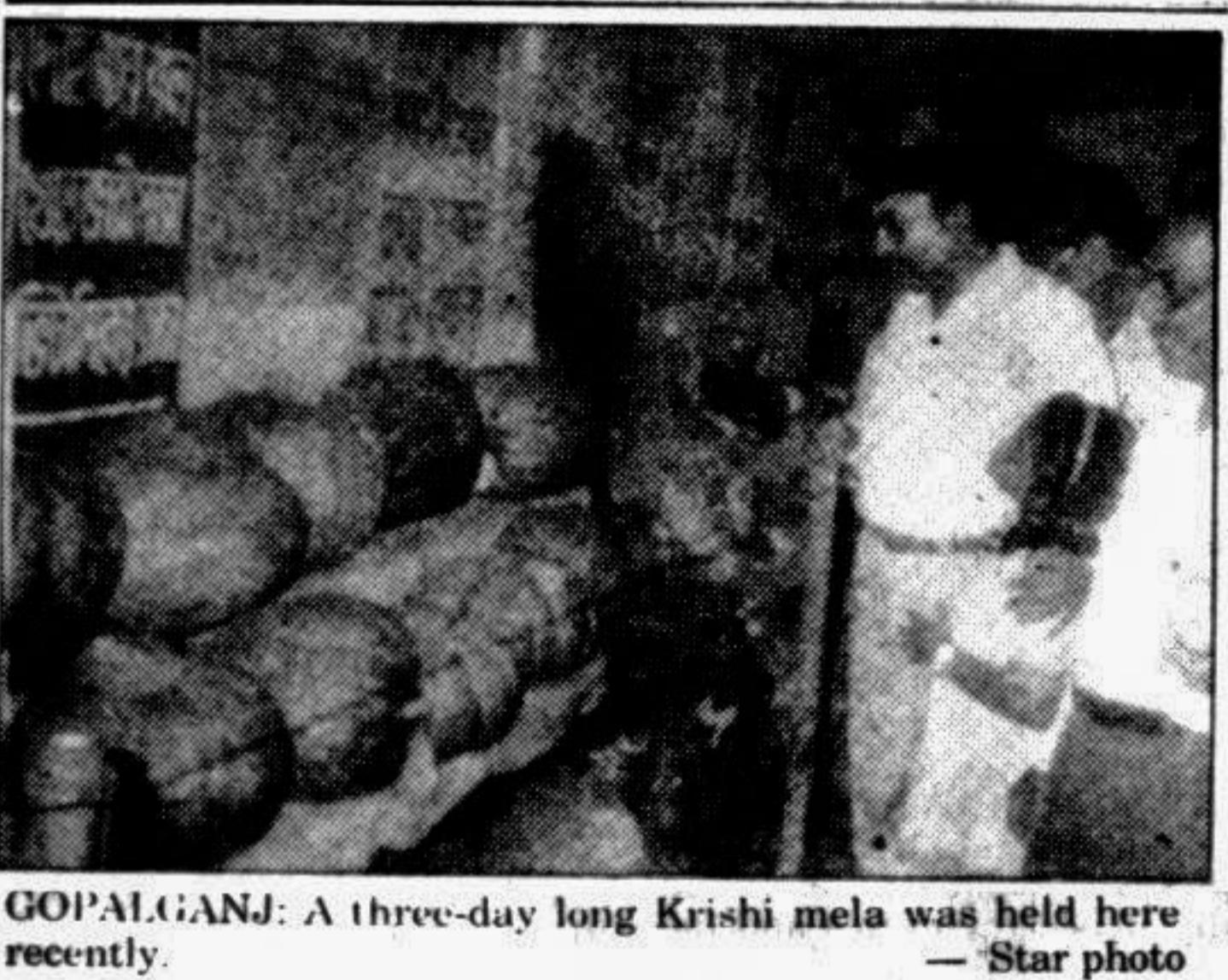
Dean of Agriculture Faculty Prof M Idris gave away certificates among the trainees at the closing function of the course jointly organised by Soil Resources Development Institute (SRDI) and Graduate Training Institute (GTI).

### Two dacoits held in Bhola

BHOLA, Apr 4: Two dacoits were arrested with booty from Ganjapur bazar in Sadar thana when they were decamping after committing a dacoity on March 28, reports UNB.

Police said Shahjahan, 35, and Waziullah, 30, were caught red handed by the local people and handed over to police.

Witnesses said both the miscreants after committing the dacoity from two fishing boats in the river Tetulia, managed to escape from the scene. But while passing the nearby bazar they, on suspicion, were caught.



GOPALGANJ: A three-day long Krishi mela was held here recently. — Star photo

### Property worth Tk 35cr gutted in Sylhet region last month

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, Apr 4: Property worth about Taka 35 crore were burnt to ashes in 104 fire incidents in the different areas of four districts in the greater Sylhet region during the last one month. At least four persons were killed while 40 others were seriously injured in these accidents. More than one hundred cattleheads were also roasted alive.

Besides, five hundred dwelling houses and three hundred business establishments were also gutted rendering about one thousand people homeless in March.

Official sources said that the highest damage was caused by the fire incidents in the district of Habiganj. The worst one occurred at the thana headquarters of Madhabpur on March 28 at night. Property worth about Taka 25 crore were burnt to ashes in this incident. More than three hundred business establishments received burn injuries while about five hundred others were rendered homeless. The other fire incidents took place at Habiganj town, Chunarughat, Baniachang, Bahubal, Shaistaganj and Nabiganj. The 16 incidents caused loss of property worth about Taka two crore, sources said. More than one hundred people were rendered homeless while over two hundred dwelling houses and business establishments were gutted.

The highest number of fire incidents took place in the district of Moulvibazar. Property worth about Taka two crore were gutted in the fire incidents at Srimangal Kulaura, Rajnagar, Baridekha, Shamsheernagar, Komolganj and in Moulvibazar town. Two persons including a woman were killed in the fire. The latest incident in the district was at the Champani Tea Garden in Komolganj thana. Property worth about Taka 20 lakh were gutted in the incident. A number of shops, residences and unshaded dwellings of the garden labourers were burnt.

Property worth about Taka 25 lakh were gutted in 21 incidents in the district of Sylhet during last month. A 65-year old woman was killed in a fire that took place at village Labuttar under Jafflong union of Gowainghat thana March 19. A four-year old boy Pranabir Dev was burnt to death while his mother Swapna Dev also sustained burn injuries on March 25 at village Bagha under Golapganj thana.

During the period, 14 fire incidents caused damage to property worth about Taka 18 lakh in the district of Sunamganj. These incidents took place in Chhatok, Sunamganj, Dera, Shulla, Madhyanganj, Doarabazar and Sunamganj town. More than one hundred dwelling houses and business establishments were gutted.

There has been an acute shortage of fire fighting arrangements in the four districts of Sylhet region. There are only six fire stations in this part of the country where the total number of thanas is 35. Only one fire station in Sylhet town covers 11 thanas. In the district of Moulvibazar, there are six thanas at three fire stations are at Srimangal, Kulaura and at the district headquarters of Moulvibazar.

Sunamganj, a district comprising 11 thanas has got only one Fire Station in the district headquarters. Same is the condition in the district of Habiganj having 7 thanas. Besides, the number of firemen and other necessary staff and fire fighting equipment in all these six stations is far below than the requirement, it is alleged. Local people urged the authorities to take immediate and necessary steps to set up new fire stations to save huge property and lives.

### 92 thousand hectares brought under wheat cultivation

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, Apr 4: About 92 thousand hectares of land was brought under wheat cultivation in 10 southern districts of the country this season.

According to a source, about one lakh and twenty thousand metric tons of wheat are expected to be produced in Jhenidah, Jessore, Magura, Narail, Khulna, Bagerhat, Satkhira, Kushtia, Chuadanga and Meherpur districts.

The source said that the Agriculture Extension Department (AED) and the Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation (BADC) will jointly distribute fertilizer, seeds, pesticides and other instruments among the farmers of these ten districts to make programme a success.

### Launch dacoity in Patuakhali

PATUAKHALI, Apr 4: River pirates looted goods worth about Tk one lakh from the passengers of a launch on March 29, reports UNB.

Police said a gang of armed dacoits numbering 10 to 12, who were travelling in the guise of passengers, attacked the passengers of the Char Biswas-bound launch ML Mamun just after half an hour it left the Patuakhali terminal.

The dacoits stopped the launch near Jainkati area in Sadar thana and decamped with the booty safely.

Passengers complained that the launch which was carrying about 50/60 passengers, left the terminal 2 hours ahead, for mysterious reasons.

### Notice Inviting Tender

1. Tender Notice No.	52/MRD of 1994-95.
2. Name of work	Supplying & fitting fixing M.S ornamental grills over road crossing Island at Shambaganj (North side) of Bazar during the year 1994-95.
3. Estimated cost	Tk 7,46,083/-
4. Earnest money	Tk 14,922/-
5. Time allowed	30 (thirty) days.
6. Eligibility of contractor	RHD general category contractor as per financial capacity and territorial jurisdiction.
7. Last date of receipt of tender	12.30 PM of 16.4.95.
8. Last date of opening of tender bids	12.45 PM of 20.4.95.
9. Last date of purchasing of tender	15.4.95 during office hour.
10. Date of Lottery	21.4.95 during office hours (11.00 AM)
11. Name of Offices of availability of tender documents	Offices of the Executive Engineer, RHD, under Mymensingh Road Circle, Mymensingh/Executive Engineer, RHD, Planning Division, Dhaka Zone, Dhaka/Planning Division (Roads & Bridges), Dhaka, Narayanganj Road Division, Narayanganj and S.D.E RHD, under Mymensingh Road Division, Mymensingh.
12. Name of offices to receive tender bids	Superintending Engineer, RHD, Mymensingh Road Circle, Mymensingh/Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation Circle, Dhaka Zone, Dhaka/Monitoring & Evaluation (Roads & Bridges) Circle, Dhaka and Dhaka Road Circle, Dhaka & Executive Engineer, RHD, Mymensingh Road Division, Mymensingh.

Md. Serajul Islam  
Executive Engineer, RHD  
Mymensingh Road Division,  
Mymensingh.

DFP-7661-30/3  
G-517

### Tk 70cr power supply project in Faridpur

FARIDPUR, Apr 4: Rural electrification programme at a cost of Tk 70 crore is going on in full swing in eight thanas of the district, reports UNB.

The Executive Engineer of the Rural Electrification Board (REB) said, under its Faridpur Pali Biddut Samity, 1,400 km long new electricity supply line will be erected.

According to REB, after the completion of the work by 1996-97 financial year, 2.33 lakh consumers of 2000 villages in these thanas will be provided electricity.

### Prof Shamsul Islam awarded

AGRI-VARSITY (Mymensingh), Apr 4: Dr AWM Shamsul Islam, Professor of the Faculty of Veterinary Science of the Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) was awarded Chancellor Gold Medal for his outstanding academic career, says a press release.

An agricultural scientist, Dr Islam did his M.Sc in Veterinary Parasitology standing first in the first class in 1966 and Ph.D from USSR, Moscow in 1971.

He is the first recipient of the Chancellor Gold Medal of the University.

**Government of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Executive Engineer, (RHD)  
Road Division, Khulna

### Notice Inviting Tenders

1. Tender Notice No.	146 of 1994-95 of Khulna Road Division.
2. Name of work	Repairing different semi-pacca and kacha sheds at different places and construction of septic tank and sock well for Basa No 2/Kha at Resource compound under (RHD), Road Division, Khulna during the year 1994-95.
3. Charge to	168-RBF.
4. Estimated cost	Tk 4,52,972/-
5. 2% earnest money	Tk 9,059/-
6. Time allowed	40 (Forty) days.
7. Eligibility of contractor	'A' to 'E' general category contractor
8. Last date and time of receipt of the tender	Up to 12-30 PM on 20-4-95.
9. Date and time of opening of the bid	At 11-00 AM on 23-4-95.
10. Name of offices where tender will be received	a) Superintending Engineer, (RHD), Road Circle, Khulna, b) Executive Engineer, (RHD), Road Division, Satkhira, c) Executive Engineer, (RHD), Road Division, Bagerhat and d) Executive Engineer, (RHD), Road Division, Khulna.
11. Name of offices where tender schedule will be sold on all working days except Fridays and other Govt. holidays.	Executive Engineer, (RHD), Road Division, Khulna/ Satkhira/ Bagerhat and all Sub-Divisional Engineers' offices under (RHD), Road Division, Khulna.

Quazi Ghulam Mustafa  
Executive Engineer, (RHD), Road Division, Khulna.

DFP-7805-1/4  
G-519



RANGPUR: Moktarur Rahman, convenor of the Mithapukur Unnayan Parishad speaking at the first conference of the parishad held at Mithapukur recently. — Star photo

### Titas gas pipeline installation in Tongi

GAZIPUR, Apr 4: State Minister for Science and Technology Prof Abdul Mannan inaugurated the newly constructed Titas gas pipeline installation at Boro Dewa in Tongi on Monday, reports UNB.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof Mannan said the present government has fulfilled all its election pledges after assuming the power.

Listing various development activities of the government, including massive development in road communication and education sectors, the State Minister said BNP does not believe in politics of rhetoric rather it believes in the politics of development

### Ningao-Daripura bridge opens

SHIBPUR (Narsinghdi), Apr 4: Food Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan Saturday inaugurated the newly constructed Ningao-Daripura bridge on Paharia river here, reports BSS.

The 212 feet long bridge constructed at a cost of Taka 55 lakh fulfilled the long cherished demand of the people of the area. The bridge will contribute in the development of socio-economic activities of the people of the area.

Addressing a meeting on the occasion at the Daripura Bazar, the Food Minister said the present government had given priority in the development of communications considering it as pre-condition to socio-economic uplift.

### One arrested with arms

SIRAJGANJ, Apr 4: A man was arrested with a homemade pipe gun from Ariamohon village of Sadar thana on Wednesday, reports UNB.

Police on secret information, raided the house of Nitai Chandra, recovered the pipe gun from his possession and arrested him.

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
Facilities Department, Ministry of Education, Bogra Zone, Bogra

### Tender Notice

Tender Notice No: 71(T)XEN/DF/BOG/94-95 Date: 28.03.95

Sealed Tenders in Bangladesh Form No.2908 are hereby invited from the Enlisted A-1(one) contractors of this department and also from the bonafide furniture manufacturers for supply of furnitures to the selected government primary school under the project 'Reconstruction and renovation work of government primary school.' Tender documents may be obtained from the office of the undersigned and also from the office of the Zonal Executive, Rajshahi/Rangpur & Dinajpur zone and concerned district Assistant Engineer's during office hours upto 16-04-95.

Tender will be received in the above mentioned offices on 18-04-95 upto 12.00 Noon and will be opened on the same date at 12.15 hours in presence of the Tenderer/Tenderers, if any.

Time for completion of work is 90 (ninety) days from the date of work order. Particulars of the works are shown as below.

SL. No	Group No	Location	Nos of school	Price of Schedule per set (non-refundable) Taka	Remarks
01.	01.	Bogra	05 Nos	400/00	
02.	02.	Joypurhat	02 Nos	400/00	
03.	03.	Sirajgonj	03 Nos	400/00	

For the contractors, other than enlisted contractors of this Department. Tender documents may be obtained on producing the following documents:

- Upto date trade licence of the firm.
- Upto date Income Tax Payment Certificate.
- Vat Registration Certificate.
- Work Order and completion Certificate (Attested by an officer not below the Rank of Executive Engineer) same type of work.

Earnest Money @ 2% (two per cent) of quoted amount in the form of Bank Draft/Pay-Order from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh will have to be submitted along with the tender in favour of the Executive Engineer, Facilities Department, Bogra Zone, Bogra.

The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tender(s) without assigning any reason what-so-ever.

Md Emdadul Hoque  
Executive Engineer  
Facilities Department  
Bogra Zone, Bogra

DFP-7795-1/4  
G-518