

# DOWN TO EARTH

## Plight Of Deception Victims In City

By ASM Nurunnabi

With the fast growing population of the country, an alarming situation has been developing in the matter of unemployment of educated youths. Passing out of various educational institutions, thousands of educated young men and women are swelling the ranks of job seekers all over the country. According to a tentative estimate, the total number of the educated unemployed may approximate 2 crore 32 lakh.

Taking advantage of the serious unemployment situation in the country, some unscrupulous elements are reportedly resorting to deceptive practices to feather their nests by offering hopes for employment. Some allegedly spurious organizations place advertisements in the national daily newspapers inviting applications for various jobs under them. The applicants are required to furnish along with their applications nonrefundable postal orders, bank draft or pay order for amounts not less than Tk. 150. The fate of the applicants apart, the stipulated application fees bring in considerable financial gains for the organizations.

Recently it was reported that a computer company invited applications for 3000 jobs under it with offers of training and apprenticeship facilities. This organization mounted high pitched publicity by running half-page advertisement in an important daily for a month requiring the applicants to enclose Tk. 150 worth of postal order or bank draft. A few days before the closing date for such applications, that organization reportedly disappeared. The law-enforcing agency found the office of the organization locked up when it went to enquire into the matter. It was thought that during the period of its month-long advertisement, the sponsors of that organization might have netted in about Tk. 75 lakh from the applicants in the form of application fees.

The field of journalism is not free from such nefarious practices. Some time back, advertisements appeared in some newspapers inviting

### JEC meet

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The three-day meeting is expected to be concluded with the signing of an agreed minutes on bilateral cooperation in economic, trade, industrial, socio-cultural, scientific and technological fields.

Officials in Dhaka said Nepal is one of the valued member countries of SAARC and a good friend of Bangladesh. Trade potentials with them are very bright.

### BSF to return bodies of two Bangladeshis

JESSORE, July 28: The Indian Border Security Force (BSF) has agreed to return bodies of two Bangladeshis who were shot dead as they tried to cross the Totapara border near Kushtia, officials said, reports UNB.

Mizanur Rahman and Mahbubul Haq were shot dead in the Indian territory and their bodies were taken away by the BSF men on Wednesday.

The BSF agreed to hand over the bodies to the Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) tomorrow morning at a flag meeting with BDR held today at Koptapara in Kushtia.

### Seats of MPs

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"My Secretariat will not take time in preparing the report on absentee MPs. We have all records and the gazette notification will be made in a couple of days," the Speaker said.

Earlier in the day, the Speaker told UNB that everything will go by the Constitution and "I will go by the Constitution and Rules of Procedure."

When his attention was drawn to the Supreme Court's opinion about the absentee MPs, he said although it is a non-binding opinion, "all concerned should follow it, must follow it."

In reply to a question, Razzak Ali said there is no necessity of summoning an emergency session of Parliament to inform the matter of vacation of seats of the Opposition MPs.

"It is upto the President whether he will summon the Parliament or not but I don't think there is any necessity of an emergency session."



Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman received Nepalese Minister for Finance and Supplies Bharat Mohan Adhikari on his arrival at Zia International Airport yesterday. — PID photo

### Croats capture towns

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national arms embargo against Bosnia amid reports suggesting the United States may be already organising weapons shipments to the Bosnian government.

European intelligence reports cited in Friday's Washington Post said the arms deliveries were part of US efforts to beef up Bosnian government forces through their allies in the Muslim world.

An unidentified US official quoted in the daily admitted the United States had a hand in facilitating some arms deliveries by Muslim nations earlier this year to the government-held airport at Tuzla, in northern Bosnia.

British and French officials cited reports of UN troops seeing Bosnian government soldiers with American-made uniforms, M-16 rifles and other US-made weapons after mysterious nighttime deliveries at Tuzla by C130 cargo planes.

### Faridpur Krishi Bank looted

PARIDPUR, July 28: Armed dacoits looted Tk 50,000 from a branch of Krishi Bank and three shops here Thursday night, reports UNB.

According to police, a gang of 20 to 30 robbers stormed into the Bakundabazar branch of Krishi Bank in Sadar thana and looted Tk 13,644 from its strong room after tying up its guard at gunpoint.

Another report says, President Bill Clinton attempted to thwart congressional efforts to lift an inter-

applications for some journalistic posts ... It was mentioned in such advertisements that no previous experience for those positions would be necessary and that the appointees would be given necessary training. This provided an added attraction for the large number of unemployed youths who applied.

From various sources it later came to light that the existence of such organisations lay in their signboards only. They rented office space in some area of the city for short periods and adopted devious techniques to create confidence in the minds of the applicants. Assuring their appointment, the applicants were given identity cards for which a charge was realised along with some additional amount ranging from Tk. 150 to Tk. 300. The applicants were thereafter told to make enquiries after sometime or the appointing authority would get in touch with them later. It was found after sometime that the offices of those organisations were locked up leaving no trace of their whereabouts. There was no doubt that sponsors of those fake media made substantial gains. In the opinion of some, a large number of declarations for publications were given in 1971 in the interest of press freedom. This raises suspicion that certain unscrupulous elements, taking advantage of some of those declarations, found opportunities for resorting to fake media business.

Similar frauds are reportedly perpetrated in other fields such as voluntary organisations, insurance companies, etc. Since all these allegedly bogus organisations use box numbers of GPO or of newspapers without disclosing their address, it becomes difficult for the victims to take legal steps in the matter.

Sometime ago, some cases of alleged malpractices were reported in the matter of recruitment of teachers for some private colleges in the city awaiting affiliation. From such reports, it appeared that such malpractices were

observers are of the view that since we come across novel practices of deception, it behoves the relevant government agencies to take immediate steps to probe the bona fides of any organisation, except in the cases of established ones, whenever it asks for money in any form from the applicants. This is the least one may expect to save unemployed people from financial loss and harassment.

### Juba Dal activist shot dead in Pabna

From Our Correspondent

PABNA, July 28: A Juba Dal activist was shot dead and two others were bullet-hit in a clash between two groups of youths here last night over a local football match.

The deceased was identified as Rafiqul, son of late Rahmatullah of Gobindapur in the town. Injured Selim and Mohiuddin were admitted to Pabna general hospital.

Local people claimed that the killing was not a political one.

Meanwhile, Juba Dal and Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal activists today staged a demonstration in Pabna town carrying the body of Rafiqul. They held the Awami League and Chhatra League responsible for the killing. A protest rally was also held at Indarpatty which was addressed by among others, local BNP leaders Rafiqul Islam Bakul and Abdur Rauf Abed.

Police arrested one person in this connection.

### New election alliance in the offing

By Staff Correspondent

Some left-leaning political parties have decided to form an alliance of "pro-liberation and anti-communal parties" to contest the upcoming parliamentary elections unitedly.

Leaders of Ganatranti Party, Communist Kendra and Gano Azadi League met here on Thursday and decided to announce formation of the alliance on August 23.

"We are working for broadening the alliance. We are keeping contact with different progressive political parties believing in the spirit of the liberation war," said Ahmedul Kabir, leader of Ganatranti Party.

He said they discussed the matter with the Gano Forum and received a "go ahead" signal. "We had also talks with some member organisations of the Left Democratic Front," he added.

The name of the new alliance is yet to be fixed. The proposed names are: Gano Oikya Jote and Gano Pragati Jote. The name would be finalised at a meeting on August 23.

Ahmedul Kabir said they were keeping contact with "progressive" political parties to forge a larger alliance to promote democracy, revive the 1972 Constitution and establish the spirit of the Liberation War.

Thursday's meeting was attended by among others, Ahmedul Kabir, Azizul Islam Khan and Mohammad Afzal of Ganatranti Party, Ajoy Roy, Moulana Hossain Ali and Nurur Rahman Selim of Communist Kendra and Alhaj Abdus Samad, Hafez Mohamad Daniel and Advocate Samir Kanti Shikder of Gano Azadi League.

### Illegal occupants evicted from Dholakhal

By Staff Correspondent

The Dhaka City Corporation, with the help of police, evicted illegal occupants and removed old junk of locomotives from the Corporation's Dholakhal truck stand in the old part of the city yesterday.

The DCC also made parking arrangement for about 200 trucks in the stand. These vehicles were parked on the road from Tanti Bazaar to Dholakhal, blocking movement of traffic.

Trucks and mini trucks could not be parked in the truck stand for about last ten years because of the illegal occupants.

An unidentified US official quoted in the daily admitted the United States had a hand in facilitating some arms deliveries by Muslim nations earlier this year to the government-held airport at Tuzla, in northern Bosnia.

British and French officials cited reports of UN troops seeing Bosnian government soldiers with American-made uniforms, M-16 rifles and other US-made weapons after mysterious nighttime deliveries at Tuzla by C130 cargo planes.

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Muslims burn the effigy of UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali following Jumma prayers at the Jama Masjid in New Delhi yesterday. — AFP photo

### 200 LTTE men killed in battles with troops

COLOMBO, July 28: In their biggest one-day loss in nearly two years, at least 200 Tamil rebels were killed in five battles with the military today, officials said.

The fighting came as three influential Buddhist monks criticized the government for drawing up a peace plan aimed at ending the Tamils' fight for a separate homeland. They urged the government to pursue the war and shelve the plan that had been widely praised by politicians on both sides of the ethnic conflict.

The Tamil separatists attacked four military camps in northeastern Sri Lanka, and at least 182 guerrillas died in the fighting, said army chief Lt Gen Gerry de Silva.

In the other battle, army commandos raided a guerrilla base and killed at least 18 rebels, de Silva said.

The soldiers destroyed the rebel base inside guerrilla territory in Vettillalikerni, he said, then returned to their camp, 290 kilometers (180 miles) north of Colombo.

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### Tanbazar

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tend as mothers of the babies. This was done to influence the situation in favour of the brothel owners.

A police constable popularly known as the "Thana Cashier" had arranged the babies for these underaged girls, the sources claimed.

At night the two babies were taken to their mothers for breast-feeding and were returned to Hashi and Nazu in the next morning under police custody, the sources also claimed.

Meanwhile, different NGOs have taken up the case to rescue the underaged girls from the 'red light' area. But the sources said the influential and rich brothel owners have already removed the girls to accommodations located at Narayanganj Gymkhana Railway Colony, Khanpur Bandar, Raily Bagan and some other parts of the town.

Police allegedly helped the owners in this connection.

Shilpi, the notorious mistress of the area was arrested following repeated reports in the national dailies. Another woman, Baby who allegedly lures underaged girls into the brothel is still at large.

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He expressed his sorrow at the present flood that inundated various parts of Bangladesh.

He strongly pleaded that a line should be drawn immediately to deter the wanton attacks by the Bosnian Serbs on the "UN safe areas," which were falling one after another.

Senator Brown shared Bangladesh's concern for its troops in Bihaq when Bangladesh ambassador to the United States called on him at his chamber yesterday.

Ambassador Humayun Kabir expressed his grave concern over the future of Bihaq and Gorazde after the fall of Srebrenica and Zepa in such a short span of time.

He stressed the need that the international community and the Western leaders should spare no efforts including use of air strikes in Bosnia to deter advancement and attack by the Bosnian Serbs, particularly in occupying the UN declared "safe areas."

He appreciated the contributions made by Bangladesh.

### The Midnight File

#### Wives urge Kashmiri militants to free their husbands

JAMMU, India, July 28: The wives and a sister of five western tourists kidnapped in Kashmir almost a month ago urged a Muslim guerrilla group today to free them immediately. The wives of two Britons, an American and a German and the sister of a Norwegian said in a signed appeal published in a newspaper here that the kidnappers, the Al-Farhan Group, would gain a lot by freeing them, reported AFP.

SAARC ministers meet

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legations of their respective countries, are already in the city.

Director General of the Ministry of Youth, Women Affairs and Sports of the Maldives Ahmed Selim will lead his country's delegation to the conference. He is already in the city.

Heads of the delegations will make a joint courtesy call on the Prime Minister tomorrow.

DSE

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and debentures worth Tk 16,10,88,890.37 were traded last week as against 6,46,998 shares and debentures worth Tk 10,22,55,764.75 of the previous week.

The market capitalisation increased to Tk 4,762 crore from Tk 4,718 crore of the previous week.

The number of total issues traded last week was 530 having 219 gainers and 221 losers as against 539 having 245 gainers and 208 losers in the previous week.

Last week's trading was dominated by Beximco shares as in the previous week. While trading of Ashraf Textiles shares, which is one of the most frequently traded issues having an upward price trend, had dropped to zero Thursday. Its prices were also showing a declining trend during the last two weeks.

The volume leader of the week, Beximco Pharma, sold 2,07,350 shares, while Ashraf Textiles 52,480 shares. Beximco Textiles 64,565, Apex Footwear 29,300, BOC 22,719, Apex Weaving 17,169, Reliance Insurance 21,753, Sonargaon Textiles 22,337 and Shine Pukur 17,250 shares.

Of the 187 enlisted issues at the DSE, 41 shares and debentures were sold below their face values last week as against 43 shares and debentures in the previous week.

No scope

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least by 21 days for formal declaration of vacancy by summoning Parliament through gazette notification as required under the Rule 178 (5), he added.

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