

Fire arms recovered

COXS BAZAR, Jan 8: Law-enforcing agencies hauled up 43 firearms from Mo-heshkhali Island yesterday as miscreants abandoned the weapons and went into hiding to escape the current hunt, reports UNB.

District police control room sources said, 16 country-made single-barrel guns, 25 sawed-off rifles and two country-made rifles were netted from Boro Mo-heshkhali, Natun Bazar, Kutubom, Hoyanakh Bazar and Gorkhata jetties.

Naval and police personnel conducted a combined drive early morning in the Bay Island, known as a den of pirates.

During the drive, part of the countrywide combing operation for recovering illegal arms ahead of national elections, the law-enforcing agencies also arrested 26 people from seven thanas of the district on various charges during last 24 hours till 8 am yesterday.

Another report adds: Khulna Metropolitan Police (KMP) in 18 days of its arms-recovery drive seized 44 firearms and huge bombs from the violence-prone city.

In their special operation till 11 am yesterday, KMP men also rounded up 232 people for their alleged involvement in various crimes.

The recovered firearms are sawed-off rifle-1, rifle-3, revolver-3, pistol-3, pipegun-32 and shifter gun-2.

Some 556 handmade bombs, 566 chocolate bombs, 20 cigarette bombs, four ram-daos, two Chinese axes and two Gupta's were also seized, said police.

The KMP began its arms-recovery drive on December 21 at the Election Commission's directive to clean up the way of national elections.

Heroin recovered, one held in Rajbari

RAJBARI, Jan 8: Police arrested a young man with 350 grams heroin worth of Tk 35 lakh from a passenger bus at Daulatdia launch ghat on Saturday last, reports UNB.

A police contingent, led by Police Superintendent Mohammad Muzibul Haq, raided the Dhaka-bound bus and recovered the heroin from the passenger Abdul Jabbar, 26, of Birampur village of Jessore district.

Jabbar was sent to jail here. A case has been registered with the police. Further investigation is on.

Workshop on "Social Movement for Development of Sanitation" held

From Our Correspondent
BRAHMANBARIA, Jan 8: A day long workshop on "Social movement for the development of sanitation" was held at local district council auditorium for local correspondents recently.

Public Health Engineering Department and UNICEF jointly patronised the workshop while Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS), Brahmanbaria district unit organised the programme.

BSS, Brahmanbaria district unit President Muhammad Arzoo presided over the workshop while Pourashava Chairman Al Mamunur Sarker inaugurated the workshop as a chief guest.

Md Rafiqul Islam, Executive Engineer of the district Public Health Engineering Department conducted a training and discussion programme on sanitation in the workshop as a special guest.

The workshop was addressed among others by Brahmanbaria Press Club President Muhammad Musa, Nepal Chandra Shah and Kamakha Ranzon Ghos, while 35 local reporters were present in the workshop.

Carpeting works on Barisal-Pirojpur road undertaken

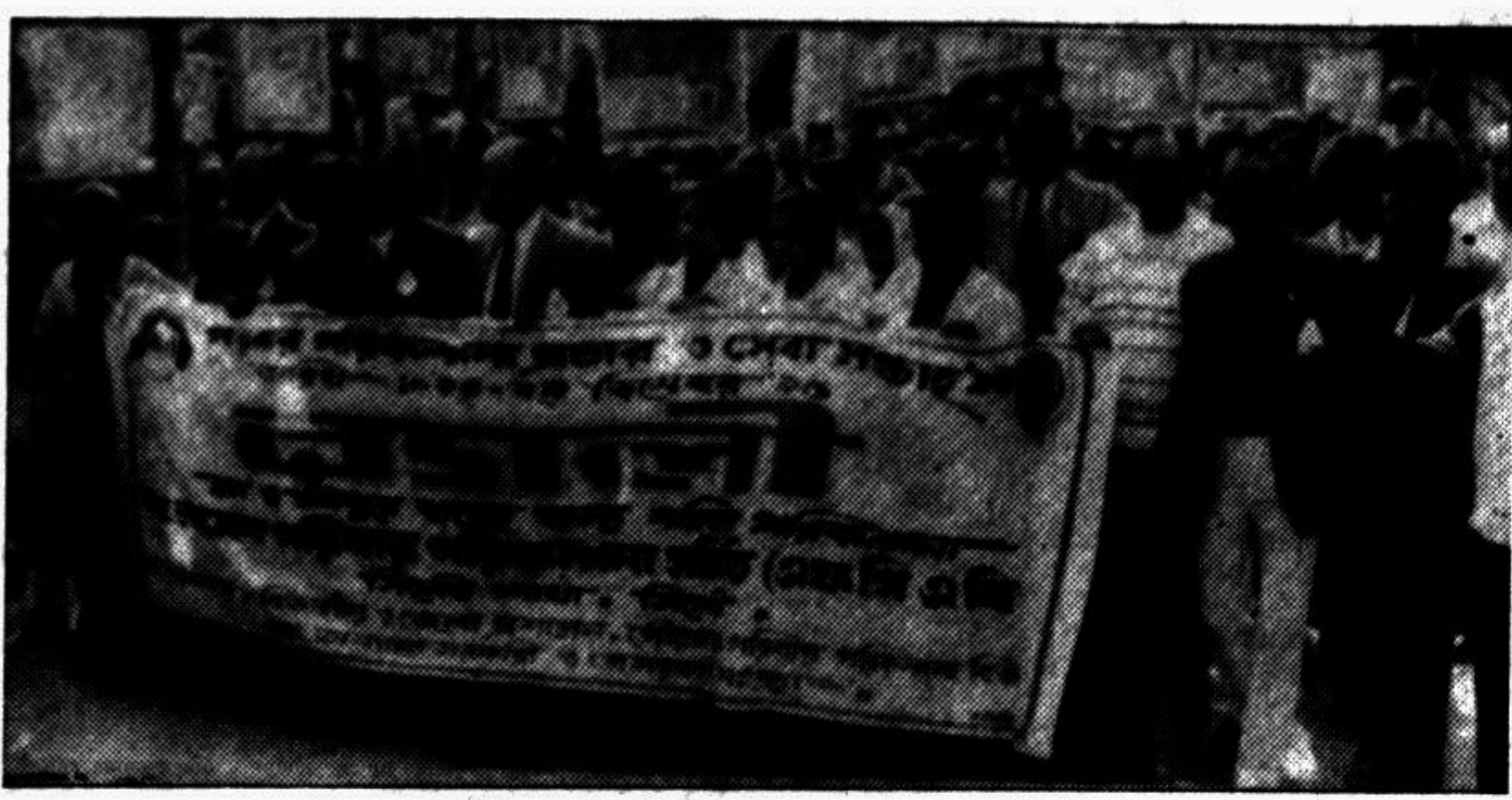
PATUAKHALI, Jan 8: Barisal Road Division has undertaken a scheme for carpeting certain portion of Barisal-Pirojpur road, reports UNB.

According to Executive Engineer of RHD, Tk 25,14,502 has been allotted for the carpeting of three km portion of the road. The work will begin soon and is expected to be completed by June next.

Another report says: Heavy foggy climate has been disrupting the waterways between the greater Patuakhali and Dhaka for the last few weeks. All river crafts on the route are to anchor for hours in several places.

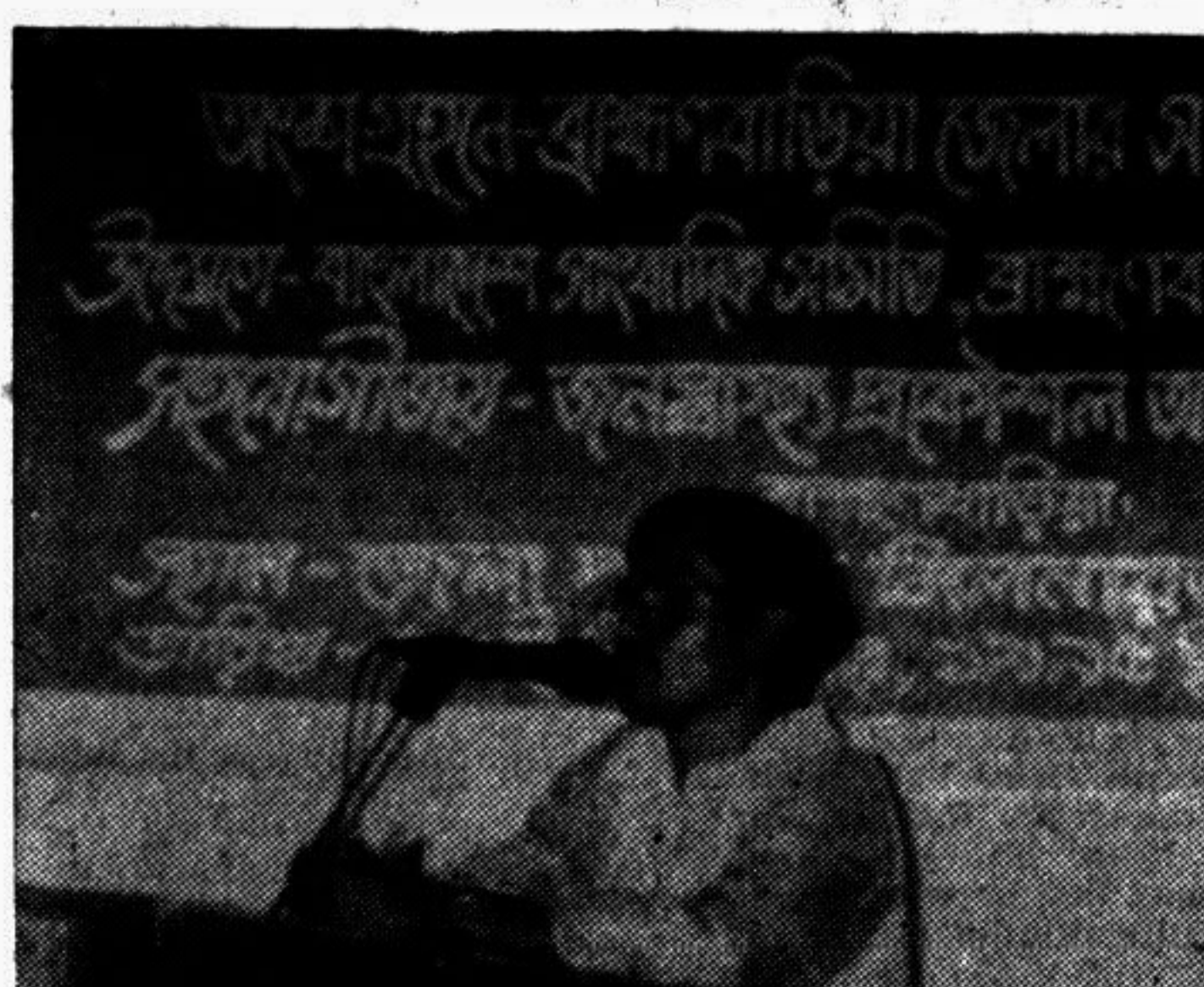
Over 70 motor vessels carrying passengers and cargo from different routes of Barisal, Barguna, Bhola, Pirojpur, Jhalakathi and Patuakhali have been facing obstruction due to poor visibility caused by the dense fog.

As a result, these vessels could not reach its destination in time during the last few weeks causing suffering to the travelling people.



SYLHET: The Sylhet unit of Family Planning Association of Bangladesh (FPAB) brought out a colourful rally in the town on the first-day of its 'Publicity and Service Week' recently.

— Star photo



BRAHMANBARIA: A day long workshop on "social movement for the development of sanitation" was held at District Council auditorium where Pourashava Chairman Al Mamun Sarker addressed as the chief guest. — Star photo

In Moulvibazar region

Sonali Bank to give Tk 7 cr loan for various income generating schemes

From Rajat K Goswami

MOULVIBAZAR, Jan 8: The Sonali Bank, Moulvibazar region has taken up a plan to disburse 7.21 crore Taka as loan under different programmes in six thanas of Moulvibazar district during the current financial year. According to the bank source, in the last financial year, the bank had distributed an amount of Taka 3 crore 54 lakh 78 thousand as loan through its different branches in the district.

On the other hand, a total of Taka 12 crore 28 lakh 91 thousand remain unpaid from 13 thousand 929 loanes till October-1995.

A total of Taka 66 lakh 23 thousand profit has been earned by the Sonali Bank from Moulvibazar region during the period from January 1995 to June 1995.

According to the assistant general manager, regional office of Moulvibazar, of the total loan of Taka 7.21 crore, Taka 3.34 crore will be given under Special Agriculture Credit Programme, Taka 84 lakh under BRDB programme, Taka 2.50 lakh under Rural Finance Project, Taka 20 lakh under BRDB Irrigation Programme, Taka 20.50 lakh under farming and off-farming scheme, Taka 40 lakh under Special Investment Scheme, Taka 50 lakh under pond based fishery scheme, Taka 20 lakh for self-reliance credit scheme and Taka 1.50 crore will be given under Agro-Industries Credit Scheme. These programme of credit will be implemented during the current financial year.

It was disclosed that, the bank has already distributed Taka 78.68 lakh during the first four months of the current financial year under the said programmes and schemes.

The loan, which has already been disbursed during first four months, from July to October 1995 are Taka

46.91 lakh under Special Agriculture Credit programme, Taka 8.83 lakh under BRDB programme, Taka 1.25 lakh under farming and off farming programme, Taka 18.56 lakh under special investment scheme and Taka 3.13 lakh under agro-industries credit programme.

The AGM of Sonali Bank, Moulvibazar region said, the main objective of these credit programmes are to create self-employment and income-generating activities in rural areas of the district. All the 23 branches of the bank in Moulvibazar district have been instructed to advance loans as per requirement of the genuine applicants so that productive activities cannot be hampered for want of credit.

The AGM also informed that, in the last financial year (1994-95), an amount of Taka three crore 54 lakh 78 thousand had been distributed through different branches in the district as loan under different programmes and schemes.

Of this, Taka 2.66 crore was given for special agriculture credit programme, Taka 16.69 lakh for BRDB programme, Taka 50 thousand for rural finance scheme, Taka 5.22 lakh for farming and off-farming scheme, Taka 43.20 lakh for special investment scheme, Taka 2.35 lakh for pond based fishery scheme, Taka 4.75 lakh for self-reliance loan programme, Taka 9.85 lakh for BRDB women's scheme and Taka 5.64 lakh was given for spices type crops loan scheme.

Besides this, the Sonali Bank Moulvibazar region had also distributed loans under cash credit, small loan, loan to professional establishment of physicians and non-government teachers.

On the other hand, a total of Taka 8.64 lakh had been distributed to new-entrepreneurs under Security Free

'Credit Guarantee Scheme' in the last financial year. Taka 16.34 lakh had been allotted to a dairy-farm under agro-industry credit scheme. Other two separate proposals, of Taka one crore 72 lakh 13 thousand under the same scheme are under active consideration of the bank. Two large-scale dairy farms of the district are the applicants of this credit. Another proposal of Taka 1.50 crore under 'industrial loan programme' is also under process of the bank, which is prayed by the Shah Mustafa re-rolling industry of the district.

The AGM said that a special investment programme has been launched by the bank in the region through its selected three branches. Main view of the programme is to create self-employment and income-generating activities in rural areas. A total of Taka 43 lakh 20 thousand has already been disbursed under the programme during the last fiscal year. The bank authority claimed that recovery-rate of this credit programme in that year is 95 per cent. Due to this success of recovery, Taka 18.56 lakh has been further distributed till October 1995 in the current fiscal year and recovery rate in this year is 91 per cent. The bank authority further claimed that under the special investment programme, they have created employment for 152 people in fishery, poultry and dairy sector. To look after the activities of the loanes under this programme some specialists have been appointed in the concerned branches.

The bank has also launched another programme of self-reliance credit programme. Taka 4.75 lakh has been distributed in last fiscal year and further Taka 20 lakh has been allotted in current fiscal year under the said programme.

The bank has selected five villages under three branches areas in the district to operate this programme. The selected villages and branches are — Balarbhag and Dashe-rail villages under Moulvibazar main branch, Channari and Langpurpur villages under Srimongal branch and Lalpur village under Kulaura branch.

Meanwhile, a total of Taka 13 crore 75 lakh 94 thousand loan money of different categories remain unpaid to Moulvibazar region of Sonali Bank. This amount are due from 14 thousand 527 firms and individuals.

Of the total unpaid loan, Taka 12 crore 28 lakh 91 thousand has treated as defaulted. The number of defaulters are 13 thousand 929.

The Sonali Bank Moulvibazar region has filed a total of 2 thousand 626 certificate cases against defaulters to recover Taka one crore 21 lakh 40 thousand till October 1995.

According to the source, there are 23 branches of Sonali Bank, including two branches of agriculture and one branch of foreign exchange in Moulvibazar district. A total of 75 officers and 149 employees are working in these 23 branches.

The source disclosed that, foreign exchange of Taka 10 lakh 44 thousand 376 has been deposited in the banks account from the people of Moulvibazar district, who are living abroad during the last fiscal year.

The source added that, after its establishment the foreign exchange branch, it has been operating only foreign currency account. But from the last fiscal year, the branch has started to operate its activities over international trade like export, import, letter of credit, processing of export bills, endorsement of foreign currency in to passports, issuing travellers cheques and wage-earners development bond.

Fertilizer crisis disrupts rabi cultivation in 16 N-dist

SIRAJGANJ, Jan 8: Acute scarcity and abnormal price hike of chemical fertilizer in 16 northern districts is disrupting cultivation of rabi crops during current season, reports UNB.

Local people alleged that a section of unscrupulous businessmen hoarded a huge quantity of TSP (Triple Super Phosphate) creating artificial crisis in the local market.

Farmers said, at present they have to procure TSP fertilizer at very high rate, which is being sold here upto Tk 1000 per bag.

This season a target of 3,000 hectares of land in nine thanas of the Sirajganj district have been fixed for cultivating various rabi crops like wheat, mustard, potato and pulses.

Meanwhile, in many hats and bazars in northern districts a 50-kg bag of urea fertilizer is being sold between Tk 260 and Tk 295 while locally produced SSP (Single Super Phosphate) fertilizer is being sold between Tk 300 and Tk 325.

On the other hand, District Agriculture Extension Department under its agriculture Rehabilitation Programme failed to supply sufficient fertilizer and seeds among the farmers.

Moreover, the farmers are facing problems in cultivating IRR and boro as a large number of seed beds have been damaged due to heavy downpour. As a result, many acres of land remained uncultivated in the region.

RUTA polls Jan 15

From RU Correspondent
RAJSHAHI, Jan 8: Nationalist and progressive teachers in a joint panel have submitted nomination papers this evening for contesting the Rajshahi University Teachers' Association (RUTA) elections to be held on January 15.

The two other panels who submitted nomination papers today on the last day of nomination filing are Jamaat barked teachers' group and moderate teachers' group.

From the joint panel, Prof Md Yunus and Prof Rafiqul Islam — both of Economics Department — will contest for the post of president and general secretary respectively.

Other contenders for the posts of President and Secretary are Prof M Mukhlesur Rahman and Prof A T M Obaidullah from Jamaat barked panel and Prof M Ali Akbar and Prof Azhar Ali from moderate group.

Election Commissioner Dr Abdullah Ansari said some 617 teachers will elect their leaders.

Businessmen join AL in Sirajganj

From Our Correspondent
SIRAJGANJ, Jan 8: Two well known businessmen of Sirajganj district have joined Awami League in Belkuchi thana recently.

It is learnt that Golam Molla Khan Babu and Zahurul Islam Mukul, two leading businessmen — have joined Bangladesh Awami League after meeting Md Nasim, Organising Secretary of the Party recently.

Country's first govt veterinary degree college inaugurated

SYLHET, Jan 8: Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman inaugurated the academic session of the country's first government veterinary degree college at a simple function here yesterday, reports BSS.

Speaking on the occasion Mr. Rahman said, revolutionary progress had been achieved in the country's fisheries and livestock sector since 1991. He said to supplement the private entrepreneurs in this sector, the government had taken programme to establish 63 new veterinary hospitals across the country.

The function was also addressed, among others, by Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Abdullah Al-Noman, Vice Chancellor of Shah Jalal University of Science and Technology Professor MU Ahmed and Divisional Commissioner, Sylhet, Mohammad Habibur Rahman.

The Finance Minister said the country presently had 10 lakh metric tons of buffer stock of cereals. In this connection, he was critical about the repeated hartals called by the opposition parties and said despite the hartals and blockades, the export-import trade of the country was being conducted.

Abdullah Al-Noman said that the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia had accelerated the economic development of the country.

Recovery of arms not yet satisfactory, says police officials

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Jan 8: Army have been deployed in all the nine thanas areas of district to conduct illegal arms recovery operation as a part of country-wide programme.

It is learnt that following the decision of the Election Commission to conduct joint operation for recovering illegal arms and ammunitions, one platoon Army have been deployed in each of the eight

thanas and five platoons in the district headquarters of Sirajganj.

It is observed that the alleged illegal arms holders of the district have gone on hiding.

However, efforts are being taken to round up the criminals of the district to ensure congenial law and order situation.



BCIC Tender Notice

বিসিআইসি'র পণ্য শিল্পায়নে জাতীয় অগ্রগতির প্রতীক

The Managing Director, Zia Fertilizer Company Limited, Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria invites sealed tender for procurement of various types of Hardware & Tools against tender No. CM/1&CES/495/95. The tender should be dropped alongwith 1% earnest money within 23.1.96 up to 11.30 AM at Zia Fertilizer Co. Limited, Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria or at Purchase Division, BCIC (16th floor), 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka and will be opened simultaneously at both places just after closing the tender. Tender schedule containing all terms and conditions may be purchased on payment of Tk 400/- (Taka four hundred) only at Zia Fertilizer Co Ltd, Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria, BCIC, BCIC Bhaban (2nd floor), 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka and BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad C/A, Chittagong. No tender document shall be sold on the date of opening. BCIC 4-2/1/96 DFP-145-3/1 G-53

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- Tender Schedule with terms and conditions may be purchased from the CASHIER, BANSDOC, Dhaka by 22 January 1996 on cash payment of Tk. 1000/- (Taka one thousand) only against Group-1 and Tk. 200/- (Taka two hundred) only against Group-2 (Non-refundable). Tenders will have to be dropped into the Tender Box kept in the Office within 25 January 1996 up to 12.00 Noon and will be opened on the same day at 12.15 PM in presence of the tenderers, if any. DFP-136-3/1 G-55

Director
BANSDOC

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Directorate of Archaeology
22/1, Block-B, Babar Road
Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207

Tender Notice

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from bonafide supplying firms for purchase of various types of local/foreign books of the Publication wing of the Directorate of Archaeology. Tender schedule containing full description of tender can be purchased at Taka 500/= (five hundred) only (non-refundable) from the office of the undersigned up to 23rd January, 1996 through written application in own pad with necessary papers. No tender schedule will be sold without production of necessary papers. Tenders will be received up to 12-00 Noon of 25th January, 1996 and will be opened on the same day at 12-30 PM in presence (if any) of the tenderers. 2% of the quoted amount should be deposited as earnest money with the tender through Pay Order/Draft in favour of Director, Directorate of Archaeology, Dhaka. Attested true copies of the firm's renewed trade licence, Income Tax clearance certificate for 1994-95, experience certificate in related work & bank solvency certificate should be submitted with the tender and the original papers should be produced at the time of purchasing schedule.

Other information regarding the tender can be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

DFP-33022-1/1
G-52
Director
Directorate of Archaeology



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Managing Director, NGFF Ltd, Fenchuganj, Sylhet invites sealed quotation for supply of following stores on Free delivery up to NGFF stores basis. Tender documents may be purchased at the following rate (Non-refundable) from (1) BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha, Dhaka, (2) BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad, Chittagong and (3) NGFF Ltd, Fenchuganj, Sylhet on all working days. Tender will be received up to 1100 hrs on the date mentioned against each and will be opened immediately thereafter in public. No Tender documents will be sold on opening day.

Sl No	Tender No	Description of stores	Price of documents	Date of opening
1.	NGFF/P-132/Stationery & Printing/95-96/1102 dated 24-12-95.	Stationery Materials	Tk 25/- (Taka twenty five)	6-2-96

BCIC 10-2/1/96
DFP-151-3/1
G-54



BRAHMANBARIA: Visitors at the recent Painting Exhibition organised by Brahmanbaria Shishu Nattom at local Shilpakala Academy. — Star photo

Faridpur pourashava plunged in numerous problems

From Our Correspondent

FARIDPUR, Jan 8: Faridpur pourashava is plunged with multifarious problems needing immediate redress include paucity of drinking water supply, absence of drainage networks, insanitation, Pitiable condition of the roads, trekking inconvenience, scarcity of street light and so on.

Established in 1869, Faridpur pourashava was upgraded to class two pourashava in the year 1983 and thereafter to class one in 1986. After the upgradations, the tax payers have not been alleviated in comparison with status of the pourashava and the enhancement of taxes.

Acute scarcity of drinking water has been prevailing for a long time. In place of daily demand of 30 lakh gallons of

water, only six lakh gallons are supplied which is not regular. The water supplied is not purified and filtered. As a result the consumers suffer from intestinal diseases.

Virtually there is no drainage system in the pourashava. However, the few drains pourashava has no outlet and as such become inoperative and thereby. Turned mosquito breeding centres. Water is logged in many places of the town after slight rainfall.

Moreover the roads are so narrow that even two rickshaws cannot cross and pedestrians find it difficult to trek.

Still 1500 katcha latrines are creating health hazard in the town. The pourashava absolutely

lacks recreational facilities hindering both physical and mental growth of the children.

Most of the roads in the pourashava are deprived of street light.

Faridpur is the gate way to traffic running to and from the capital and south and south-western parts of the country. But the bus terminal is so small and dirty that the passengers are faced with tremendous inconvenience.

Shariatullah katcha bazar and fish market adjacent to it are worth the name. In view of this appealing condition, it is desired that the poura authority should pay attention to mitigate the problems in a manner befitting to the status of class one pourashava.