

## Bhanu Nessa — another unsung heroine

From Ranesh Maitra



PABNA: A reception will be accorded to Bhanu Nessa, another lady Freedom Fighter by Santhia Press Club sometime this year. — Star photo

PABNA, Dec 14: Musammat Bhanu Nessa, of village Tenbulia under Santhia thana in Pabna district is a forgotten woman with none to remember the heroic role she played during the historic War of Liberation in 1971.

Bhanu Nessa, a destitute widow recalled the memories of the Liberation War to this correspondent last Tuesday during an interview.

She said, "the Freedom Fighters took over Santhia thana on December 7 and Santhia was free since then. But the treacherous Pak Army again came from Pabna town to attack Santhia thana on the next day. Following a fierce battle, the Freedom Fighters (FFs) defeated the enemy forces who fled leaving one vehicle and a truck. The Freedom Fighters apprehended return of forces. So they blew off the bridge near Joregachha and ambushed nearby. As was suspected, the Pak forces again came but was halted near the damaged bridge on the morning of December 9 and the Freedom Fighters launched a severe attack."

Bhanu Nessa further said, "the battle was continuing not very far away from my house. At one stage, the Freedom Fighters were short of cartridges and sent message to her for arranging supply of the same from Santhia Police Station which was under the command of Muktiyoddhas. I requested some persons, but all refused to do the job. Then I myself rushed to Santhia Thana and approached the President of Santhia Thana Awami League late Abdul Wahab Jitu who delivered a bag of cartridges and other ammunitions. The bag was too heavy for me to carry. Anyhow I managed to carry the bag and secretly supplied the cartridges to the Freedom Fighters in their bunkers. The fighters became much inspired, they continued the grim battle till 5 pm, when after suffering huge losses, the enemy forces retreated for good. I received a bullet injury on my forehead, but I forgot the pains due to the joy of victory that day."

Asked what help she got from the government or from Muktiyoddha Kalyan Trust so far, she said, "nothing."

When asked what she wanted now, she said that she had no demand except the welfare of the poor people.

When requested for expressing her feeling on the Silver Jubilee of the victory, she said, "I am so happy that I am alive on this historic day and I only want a happy and prosperous Bangladesh which was the dream of all the Freedom Fighters."

## Dacoity: Valuables worth Tk 20,000 looted

From Our Correspondent  
JHENIDAH, Dec 14: A dacoity was committed in a house at village Bhutiarhati in Jhenidah Poursabha area recently night, according to police sources.

Police said, about 12 armed men entered into the house of Matiar Rahman at about 12:30 am and claimed Taka 20,000 from him. Afterwards the miscreants looted valuables worth about Taka 20,000 and fled.

A case was filed with Jhenidah thana in this connection.

## Beheaded youth identified

From Our Correspondent  
JESSORE, Dec 14: The unidentified beheaded body, recovered by police from a paddy field at Rupdia under Chanchra Union of Kotwali thana, in the district, recently has been identified as Kamruzzaman Babul, 25.

According to police and local people, son of Hosen Ali of Sutighata under Ramnagar union of Kotwali thana, Kamruzzaman went to Satkhira with his friend on Dec 1 last, and came to Jessore the same day. He was missing from since then as told by his family members.

## BCIC Local Tender Notice

বিসিআইসি'র পদ্মা শিয়ারনে জাতীয় অন্নপত্রির প্রকল্প

The Managing Director, Jamuna Fertilizer Company Ltd. Tarakandi, Sarishabari, Jamalpur invites sealed tender in two envelope system against tender No. JFCL/FP/MTS/INST/2.212/141 dated 01.12.96 from the bonafide Importers/Suppliers/Manufacturers/Traders for supply of Spare Parts for Level Gauge (Klinport, Mica plate & gasket) at Mill store delivery basis. Tenders will be received upto 11.00 AM on 26.12.96 and be opened immediately afterwards. Tender documents with detailed description can be collected subject to cash payment of Tk 200 (Two hundred) only (Non-refundable) per set from (i) BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka (ii) BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad C/A, Chittagong (iii) Jamuna Fertilizer Company Ltd., Jamalpur. No tender documents will be sold on the date of opening.

BCIC 1248-5/12/96  
DFP 28483-8/12

## Tender Notice

বিন্যাস ব্যবহারে মিডবারী হোন

Sealed local tenders are hereby invited by the Bangladesh Power Development Board for the procurement of materials for the following:

The expenditure will be booked against Operation and Maintenance Revenue budget in the financial year 1996-97.

Sl No	Tender No & date	Description of materials	Cost of tender documents	Date of opening & receiving of tender
1	Pur-246/96/Lot-3 Dt 28-11-96	Silicazel=1000 kgs	Tk 500/-	29-12-96

A complete set of tender document may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of written application and upon payment of non-refundable fee of Taka 500/- (Taka five hundred only) in the shape of Bank Draft/Pay Order favouring Director, Purchase, Power Development Board, Dhaka.

A bid bond equivalent to 2½% (two and half per cent) of the offered price shall be submitted with tender. Tender will be received up to 11:00 AM and will be opened at 11:30 AM on the same date as mentioned in Col No 5 above in presence of the intending bidder or their representative, if any. Tender shall neither be sold on the date of opening nor it could be collected by post. Offer sent by post/Telex/Fax will neither be acceptable, nor it will be received.

Biddut/Jan-656/596-97  
DFP-28178-4/12

Director of Purchase  
PDB, Dhaka.

# FFs braved enemy air strikes to free Sylhet town

From Iqbal Siddiquee

SYLHET. Fifteenth December is a red letter day for the people of Sylhet, the north eastern district of the country, 25 years back, on this very day in 1971, the district headquarters was freed from the clutches of the Pakistan Army.

Sylhet, the holy township with the memory of the great saint Hajrat Shahjalal (RA) was echoing with the sky-touching slogans by thousands of joyous Freedom Fighters and people from all walks of life, who entered into the town following the fall of Pak Occupation Army.

Thousands of people of this township and suburbs tasted victory, a day before the day on which the whole country witnessed victory, that is the 16th day of December. The then Indian Government officially recognised Bangladesh on

December 6 and immediately it strengthened both ground and air attacks on the all establishments of the Pak Army throughout the country.

Meanwhile, the Freedom Fighters also strengthened their guerrilla attacks which they began since the beginning of the month of November throughout the country. The Allied Forces also extended their operations in almost all regions resulting in a number of major victories of the Freedom Fighters and Allied Forces began to achieve greater successes in different regions causing serious loss to the Pak Occupation Forces. This time with the fall of a number of important bases at different sectors, the Pak Army and their collaborator forces became very much worried. In such a situation, the Pak Army became very desperate and started serious air attacks.

In Sylhet, a big contingent of Muktiyoddha and Indian Army reached Khadimnagar area, about eight and a half kilometers from the Sylhet town on December 13, braving enemy air attacks.

In the meantime, two other contingents of Muktiyoddha captured Jalalpur and Lamakazi, two important entry points of the town in south-eastern side of the suburb of the town. With this event the Pak Army became totally crippled as they had no power to move. But, only the southern side was then open. As this very open area is full of hillock-type places and next to which is the Indian borders, it also became very hard for them to move towards the



(Clockwise from top left) General AAK Niazi joined a rally organised by the peace committee in Sylhet town in the first week of December 71. On his right is standing Advocate Shahid Ali, district peace committee leader. It was the last public gathering in the region in Sylhet in support of Pakistan. A view of skeletons of the mass graveyard at village Adityapur of Balaganj thana. As many as 63 freedom loving people were shot dead at the spot by the Pakistan Army and its collaborators on June 14 of 1971. A group of Rajakars (One of the group of collaborators) were asked to lay down on the ground at the Circuit House premises by Freedom Fighters soon after the fall of Pakistani forces on December 15, in Sylhet. Col. Shaokat Ali, a sector commander speaking at the first rally after independence at the Registry Maidan in Sylhet town. — All photo courtesy: Abul Lais Shyamal

## Dacoity at night coach : 10 injured

From Our Correspondent  
GOPALGANJ, Dec 14: Cash and valuables worth Tk two lakh was looted and ten persons injured as a group of armed dacoits stormed a night coach at Ghonapara bus stand in sadar thana of the district recently.

Sources said, a Mongla-bound passenger bus from Dhaka came under attack of armed dacoits at midnight near Ghonapara bus stand. They looted cash and valuables worth Tk two lakh and assaulted passengers injuring 10. The dacoits managed to flee. A case was lodged with police.

## Diarrhoea claims 20 in Jhalakathi

From Staff Correspondent  
BARISAL, Dec 14: Diarrhoea claimed 20 lives in three thanas of Jhalakathi district recently, official sources said. One thousand people are affected by diarrhoea.

The worst affected areas are Ranapasa, Mollarhat and Nachanmahal of Nalchitly thana where 10 persons died while another ten persons died in sadar and Rajapur thanas.

## Moulvibazar Red Crescent's AGM challenged

From Our Correspondent  
MOULVIBAZAR, Dec 14: Recent Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) Moulvibazar district unit was challenged by registering a general diary with the local police station Friday.

According to the allegation, the outgoing Executive Committee (EC) of the Society's Moulvibazar unit called the AGM Thursday. But due to lack of presence of sufficient members, the AGM was postponed till 11 am Friday. The members came to attend the AGM, but found no leading people present at the meeting venue in scheduled time. A section informed the members that the new executive committee was already formed one hour before the meeting.

The agitated members protested such action of the outgoing committee.

Syed Masafiss Ali, a leading businessman of the town registered the case.

The local members of Moulvibazar Red Crescent Society were agitating till writing of the report.

## Question papers snatched at gun point

From Staff Correspondent  
KHULNA, Dec 14: Notes and answer scripts for probable questions collected by Nazmul Hossain, a first year class student of Azam Khan commerce college was snatched at gun point by one of his class mates on recently.

Snatched victim cried out for help. But none came forward as the alleged snatchers exploded crackers while going away with arms in hands.



PABNA: Liberation War Shaheed Police Memorial in Pabna Police Parade Ground is the only memorial built for remembering the martyrs of 1971 here. — Star photo

## 5 shallow pump machines stolen in 2 nights!

From Our Correspondent  
MAGURA, Dec 14: Five shallow pump machines have been stolen from Irri paddy irrigation project in Aldhani, Narhati and Nichintopur villages of the sadar thana in the district on the night of recently.

Shallow pump machines of Abul Mollah at village Aldhani, Torab Mollah and Motin Sheikh of Narhati were also stolen on the night of recently sources added.

They suspected that an organised gang involved in this connection.

## One held on suspicion of carrying gold

From Our Correspondent  
GAIBANDHA, Dec 14: One person was arrested by Bonarpura Railway police for carrying seven kilogram of bronze bar suspected gold bars from Dhaka bound Teesta express recently.

A passenger namely Himangshu was travelling by Teesta express from Dinajpur toward Mymensing. Being suspected Bonarpura Railway police challenged him and searched his briefcase. They found 26 pieces of metal bar suspected as gold weighing seven kg.

Later the metal bars were tested and found they were bronze. Failing to produce any document police arrested him and seized the metal bars from his possession. Later the accused was placed before Gaibandha court.

# Tale of a FF who turns beggar

From H B Khan



KURIGRAM: Khaibar, a Freedom Fighter turned beggar, begging from door to door with his daughter. — Star photo

KURIGRAM, Dec 14: Man is merely a puppet in the hands of destiny. It is fate that leads a man to his ultimate destination. These are all common beliefs. But it is shocking when fate plays with the life of brave souls for whom we achieved a free land of our own.

Like many other Freedom Fighters, Khaibar Ali, 50, a valiant Freedom Fighter of Kurigram has been forced to earn his livelihood by begging from door to door.

Soon after the Liberation War fate of many people was changed. Khaibar Ali did not see any fortune. He turned into a street beggar. During the last 25 years which elapsed after the emergence of Bangladesh nothing was provided to this poor helpless Freedom Fighter of Kurigram from the government. It is learnt.

Confronted with poverty he has been residing with his seven-member family in a worn-out house at Nowdabash in Panchgachi union under Kurigram sadar thana.

It is to be mentioned that Khaibar Ali joined the Liberation War in 1971 and fought against the occupation Pak Army in Sector No-6. At the time of operation in the war field he lost both his eyes in a bomb blast.

After the Liberation War, he fell in distress. Ultimately he started begging from door to door and became a street beggar.

## International Tender Invitation for Bids

Grant No: Japanese Grant No 26800 Date: 03 December, 1996  
Project Name: 'Inland Waterways Environmental Monitoring and Control' under the Third Inland Water Transport Project  
IFB No: Environment-1

The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a grant from the Government of Japan, administered by the World Bank, towards the cost of 'Inland Waterways Environmental Monitoring and Control' under the Third Inland Water Transport Project, and intends to apply part of this grant to eligible payments under the contract for the supply of goods and services.

The Department of Shipping, Government of Bangladesh hereby invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply of one (1) or more of the twenty-one (21) packages described in the ITB Data Sheets and Listed in the Schedule of Requirements comprising:

GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS) COMPUTER HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE including 2.1-486 DX2 166 Mhz 32 RAM computer and 20" colour monitor, 2.1-486 DX2 100 Mhz 16 RAM computer and 15" colour monitor, AO Plotter, Digitizer, Laser Printer, appropriate GIS software, and other items.

LABORATORY AND FIELD EQUIPMENT FOR THE COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS OF WATER AND AQUATIC SEDIMENTS including basic analytical equipment, chemicals and standards, autoanalyser, atomic absorption spectrophotometer and accessories, synchronous scanning fluorescence spectrophotometer, gas chromatograph and accessories, Kjeldahl nitrogen analysis equipment, laboratory balances, electrometrical equipment, field water and aquatic sediment sampling equipment, refrigerator, freezer, laboratory quality control software, laboratory reference books, voltage stabilisers, power generators, water purification units, laboratory clean bench, fume hood calculators and laboratory safety equipment.

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents at the Purchaser's office: Project Director, Inland Waterways Environment Monitoring & Control Project, Department of Shipping, 141-143, Motijheel C/A (8th Floor), Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh (Telephone 88-02-9553584; Telex 642207 DGS BJ; Fax 88-02-833393; Email-motimac@bangla.net).

A complete set of the Bidding Documents may be obtained from the Project Director, Inland Waterways Environment Monitoring & Control Project, Department of Shipping, 141-143, Motijheel C/A (8th Floor), Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh on submission of a written application and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of US \$50 or equivalent in Bangladesh Taka (source of exchange rate Central Bank of Bangladesh). All payments will be by a Bank Draft or certified cheque made out in favour of the Department of Shipping.

The deadline for the submission of bids is 1115 (am), 30th January, 1997. Bids received after that date and time will not be accepted. Bids will be opened at 1130 (am) in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at that date and time at the office of the Project Director. In the event that this date falls on a Government holiday, the bid opening date will be at the same time on the next working day.

Project Director  
Inland Waterways Environmental Monitoring & Control Project  
DFP-28608-9/12 Department of Shipping, 141-143, Motijheel C/A  
G-1886 Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh.