

### Gunbattle leaves 13 wounded

From Our Correspondent KUSHTIA, Mar 24: At least 13 persons including two police officials were injured when a bloody gunbattle ensued in between the activists of Awami League and JSD (Inu) on Saturday at Bheramara.

Eyewitnesses said that the battle took place when Awami League activists tried to take control over a SSC examination centre.

Milon JSD (Inu) leader tried to enter into the centre during mathematics examination but Awami League Organising Secretary obstructed him. As a result, two groups were looked in confrontation which ultimately spread to the town which ended in a gunbattle.

As a 26 of Awami League was seriously injured. Reports also say that gunbattle took place in Bheramara College ground.

To stop the battle, administration had to deploy riot police and later situation was brought under control.

Ripu, 27, Mohid, 28, Palash, 29, Moni, 25, all belonging to JSD (Inu) and Abdullah and To-fael of Chhatra League received bullet wounds.

Golam Kibria, ASP, Bheramara and SI Mustafizur Rahman were injured by brickbats during the gunbattle. Seriously injured Asa and To-fael have been admitted in Kushtia General Hospital.

On the other hand, in order to take revenge houses of Naimul Poura, Commissioner and JSD (Inu) leader and Nazir were set on fire. Fire brigade from Kushtia rushed there to extinguish the fire. A tense situation is prevailing in Bheramara town according to information received here today.

### IU admission test shifted

From Our Correspondent ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY (Kushtia), Mar 24: The authorities of Islamic University (IU) have shifted the scheduled date and time of practical test and other test for admission to the 'varsity under the 'player quota' for first year honours courses for the session 1996-97 from March 19 to April 8, says an official source.

The admission-seekers who appeared at the admission test (written) this year may now collect the application form from the Physical Culture Department and submit it till April 7. The test of the male admission-seekers will be held on April 8 and 9, while April 10 has been fixed for female admission-seekers.

Before this, the last date for collection and submission of application forms was March 18 and the test was scheduled to be held on March 19, 20 and 22. It may be mentioned here that a total of 20 students will be admitted to the varsity under the 'player quota' this year.

Besides this, there are 905 academic seats for the admission seekers under 15 departments in the university.

# Fund shortage hits cotton cultivation

From Our Correspondent

NATORE, Mar 24: Despite having potential, cotton production in Rajshahi zone including Natore is being hampered due to lack of credit facilities, scarcity of quality seeds and absence of efficient market system, concerned sources said.

According to official sources, on an average 6,000 bales of cotton are being produced in Rajshahi zone annually while about 2,000 bales of cotton in Natore district.

The sources said, a total of 6,500 acres of agricultural land against the target of 8,000 acres of land, have been brought under cotton cultivation in Rajshahi zone with a production target of about 6,700 bales of cotton.

Rajshahi zone of the Cotton Development Board (CDB) consists of 10 thanas of Natore, Rajshahi and Naogaon districts where there are 15 cotton development units, of the 10 thanas, Bagatipara, Boraigram, part of Gurudaspur and sadar thanas of Natore district, Puttia, Bagha, Charnhat, Paba and sadar thanas of Rajshahi and only Manda thana of Naogaon thana, are cotton-growing areas under Rajshahi zone.

It may be mentioned here that the Cotton Development Board was set up in 1972 with an eye to remove the problems in the cotton cultivation. Following the inception of CDB, cotton production, increased but it was found remaining well below target.

However, since its establishment, the CDB could not make any real development in cotton production, said an official on condition of anonymity adding, there was no denying that if the extension programme in the cotton cultivation could have been implemented successfully, then the lion's share of the total demand would be fulfilled locally.

It is reported that only 15 per cent of the country's cotton requirement is met by local pro-

duction, while the rest of the demand is met by imports.

But due to easy access to institutional credit for the farmers, panicky of quality seeds and lack of proper marketing system, cotton production has been impeded badly.

A local agricultural expert says that it has been proved that cotton farming is more profitable than that of the cash crops like jute and tobacco. If proper steps were taken, an additional 12,000 acres of land could be brought under cotton cultivation in the zone in future, official sources said.

The sources said, there are 20,000 acres of land in Rajshahi zone suitable for cotton cultivation. Of which, 15,000 acres of land are economically viable.

According to sources, farmers are facing fund shortage for cotton production. They could hardly reap the benefits of loan disbursed every year due to red tapism. In many cases, peasants applying for cotton loans are subjected to harassment by the bank officials, it is alleged.

The per acre production cost of cotton is estimated between Taka 4,500 and 5,000. Most of the small and marginal farmers will not be able to bear the cost of production without institutional credit support, one Rejaul Karim, a cotton farmer in Bagatipara thana of Natore district said.

"You see, as the cost for irrigation, seeds and pesticide are going up, so is the production cost of cotton," he added.

Scarcity of improved cotton seeds is also a major stumbling block to the per acre yield.

The total cotton production would be doubled if the required quantum of quality seeds could be made available, official sources said.

However, the CDB, Rajshahi zone failed to meet the procurement target of seed-cotton due to non-availability of funds

and low rate fixations.

In the zone, CDB has purchased about 2,500 mounds of cotton so far against its procurement target of 4,000 mounds of seed cotton this year. The CDB, in many cases, failed to procure cotton at the official rate due to active participation of the traders in the private sector.

The official rate of seed-cotton has been fixed at Taka 1,040 per mound this year that is only Taka 40 higher than the last year. But the private traders are collecting seed cotton at the rate of between Taka 1060 and 1080 per mound in Rajshahi region this year, sources said.

"We procure cotton from the farmers to supply the quality seeds to the private traders, in most cases, do not care about processing and ensuring the quality seeds", a CDB official in Rajshahi zone said.

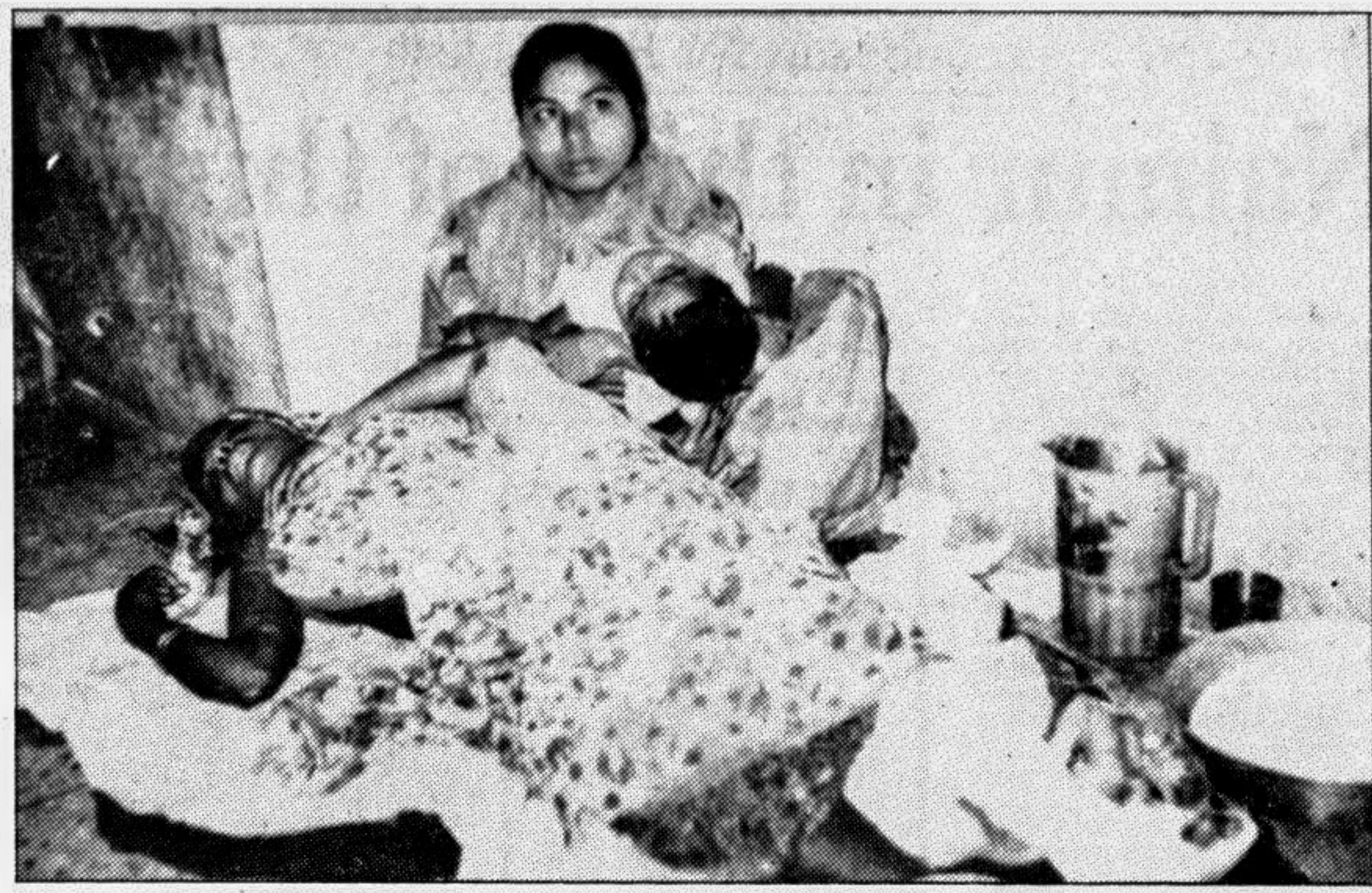
Acute scarcity of improved seeds adversely affected the total production. The total demand for quality seeds is estimated at 570 mounds for Rajshahi zone, where as the CDB is supplying 300 mounds to 375 mounds of seed-cotton, only 40 to 50 per cent of the demand.

Although the CDB has taken some steps in quality control, the cultivators are more interested to sell their produce to private buyers as they get higher prices without bureaucratic complexity, it is noticed. The producers need quick money as they do not have much institutional credit and marketing system.

Unless such facilities are extended at the root levels, cotton production can not develop.

Inadequate manpower of the board is another reason of discontinuing development of cotton production, sources alleged.

Lack of spray machine is also another problem following the growing demand of cotton-growers. It needs 4 to 5 times spraying in cotton farming, the sources said.



FARIDPUR: The victims of police oppression on women at Shonkerpasha under Nagarkanda thana in the district being treated at Faridpur General Hospital.

— Star photo

### Various prison terms for 9 violators

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, Mar 24: Nine persons have been found guilty and sentenced to suffer rigorous imprisonment (RI) for various terms on charge of kidnapping and violating a minor girl.

M. Kader Newaz, Additional and Special Tribunal Judge of Kishoreganj in a judgement delivered on February 27 convicted Mainuddin, the main accused in the case and sentenced him to suffer RI for 10 years with a fine of Taka 2000, in default to suffer RI for six months more. The court also found Adur Rashid, Zil Mia, Safi Mia, Idries Mia, Sadhu Mia, Iqbal, Selim (absconding) and Zahir (absconding) guilty and sentenced them to suffer RI for 7 years with a fine of Taka 1,000, in default to suffer RI for three months more.

According to the prosecution, Mainuddin proposed to marry Asma Khatun, 12, daughter of Abu Sayeed of village Gazaria in Bhairab thana.

### New IUOA executives

From Our Correspondent

ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY (Kushtia), Mar 24: The "Nazrul-Sohel Parishad" has swept the election of the executive committee of Islamic University Officers' Association (IUOA) for the year 1997 held at the Administrative Building of the university recently.

Of the 11 executive positions, the "Nazrul-Sohel Parishad" bagged 9 posts, while two other positions went to its rival "Muslehuddin-Latif Parishad."

The elected members of "Nazrul-Sohel Parishad" are: Muhammad Nazrul Islam (President), Syed Shahinawaj Ahmed Rumi (Vice-President), Muhammad Sohel (General Secretary), Muhammad Mokbul Hossain (Treasurer), M Ataur Rahman, M Parvej Miah, M Roshan Khan, M Shah Alam and Munshi Shahiduddin Muhammad Tareq (executive members).

The elected members of "Muslehuddin-Latif Parishad" are: S M Mostafa (Vice President) and Dr S M Nazrul Islam (Joint-Secretary), S M Touhid, Chief Engineer of the varsity conducted the election.

It was the 5th election of IUOA and 62 voters, out of 63 cast their votes.

### 3 held on charge of kidnapping businessman

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, Mar 24: Kotwali police arrested 3 persons, including a college student, on charge of kidnapping a businessman. The microbus used in the kidnapping was also seized.

Borhanuddin of Toakul Bazar of Gowainghat thana came to Sylhet town to purchase goods. A group of 4 to 5 young-men forcibly took him on a microbus and started going towards Khasidobir area on the outskirts of the town. A police party immediately chased them and recovered the kidnapped businessman. The police also caught the 3 miscreants, including the microbus driver. The local people helped the police in nabbing the miscreants.

### RCC Mayor asks officials to ensure water supply

The Mayor of Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC), Mizanur Rahman Minu has directed the officials and employees of Water Supply Department of the corporation to supply water whenever electricity is available. Because, he said, the city dwellers are deprived of water due to stoppage in water supply arising out of frequent loadshedding, says a press release of RCC.

The Mayor was speaking to the officials and employees of Water Supply Department of the corporation while presiding over a meeting of the officers and employees recently.

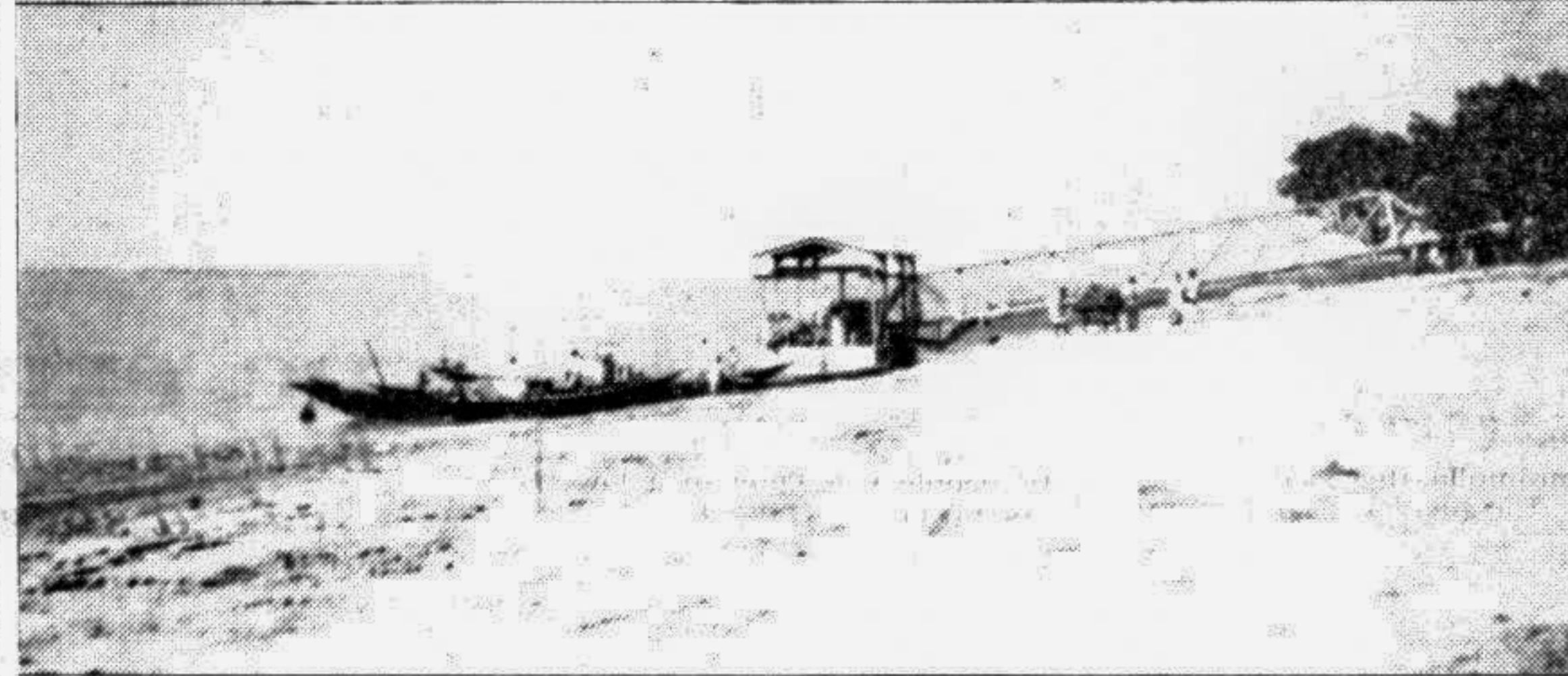
The Mayor further asked them to start operation of the tubewells as soon as power supply is restored. He directed the pump operators to engage in works till late night, the press release added.

### Rangpur AL triennial council

From Our Correspondent

RANGPUR, Mar 24: The triennial council session of Rangpur district Awami League was held on Wednesday at Rangpur town hall with Abdul Jalil ex-MP and Jt General Secretary of central Awami League as the chief guest while Mizanur Rahman Manu, Whip of the Jatiyo Sangsad, Abdul Mannan, Assistant Publicity Secretary of the central Awami League, Ashekur Rahman, MP Treasurer of the central Awami League, Mostafizur Rahman, MP, Dinajpur, Siddique Hossain ex-MP, Shah Abdur Rezzak ex-MP, Fulu Sarker, member of the central Awami League Working Committee and Advocate Nazrul Islam were special guests.

Speaking at the Councilors Rally, Abdul Jalil called upon the workers of Awami League to render sincere services to the people to redress their miseries and to work at a concerted zeal for successful execution of the government's poverty alleviation programmes.



PABNA: The picture shows a dredger has been installed in the river Padma by the authorities of North Bengal Paper Mills to pump in 'sweet' water for the factory.

— Star photo

### PROSPECTUS

From page 16

- No. of shares..... of Tk 100 each at par. Amount in to Tk (in figure).....
- Tk (in words)..... only convertible in to US Dollar..... at US Dollar 1.00= Tk. 42.8296 /UK Pound Sterling 1.00= Tk. 67.7025
- Payment by Draft/Cheque No. .... date..... for US Dollar/UK Pound Sterling /Tk. .... drawn on..... branch of.....

Sole/First Applicant: Mr/Mrs./Ms	
Father's/Husband's Name	
Occupation	Nationality
Passport or No	
Date of Birth	
For Refund Warrant: Applicant's Bank A/C No.	
Name of the Bank	Branch
Sole/Second Applicant: Mr/Mrs./Ms	
Father's/Husband's Name	
Occupation	Nationality
Passport or No	
Date of Birth	
Mailing Address	
Nominee:	
(i) Name	
(ii) Mailing Address	
4. Specimen Signatures(s)	
(i) Sole/First Applicant	Signature
(ii) Second Applicant	Signature

### INSTRUCTIONS

- All information must be written or typed in block letters in English and must not be abbreviated.
- Application must not be for less than 50 ordinary shares having value of Tk. 5,000 or multiple thereof.
- Application must be accompanied by a foreign demand draft drawn on a bank payable at Dhaka or a cheque drawn out of foreign currency deposit account maintained in Bangladesh for the full value of shares favouring "RAHIMA FOOD CORPORATION LIMITED" and crossed "Account payee only".
- Application shall be sent by the applicant directly to the company within the subscription closing date so as to reach the company within (Nine + subscription closing date). No application sent after the subscription closing date or received by the company after (Nine + subscription closing date), will be considered for allotment purpose.
- Refund against over-subscription shall be made in the currency in which the value of shares was paid for by the applicant through Account payee cheque payable at Dhaka with bank account no. Bank's name and Branch.
- In case of over-subscription, allotment shall be made proportionately solely in accordance with the instructions SEC.
- Money receipt on clearance of draft or cheque, as the case may be, shall be sent by post to the applicant by the company.
- Joint application by two persons will be acceptable. In such a case, allotment or refund shall be made by post to the first applicant.
- Application must be made by an individual, a corporation or company, a trust or a society and not by a firm, minor or persons of unsound mind.
- Making of any false statement or supplying incorrect information or suppressing any relevant information in the application shall make it liable to rejection and subject to forfeiture of the application money.

### Pabna businessmen protest power failure

PABNA, Mar 24: Businessmen enforced a half-day strike here protesting frequent power failure and loadshedding, recently reports UNB.

All shops and business establishments of the district town kept their shutters down till 2 pm at the call of Pabna Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI).

Several thousand businessmen brought out a procession in the town and submitted a memorandum to the deputy commissioner.

They also held a rally in front of the DC office which was addressed by PCCI president M A Kafi Sarkar, Abdur Rois Khan, Zillur Rahman Biswas and Rezaul Hossain Mintu.

The businessmen gave a seven-day ultimatum to the authority to meet their five points charter of demands including immediate solution to the power crisis and loadshedding. They threatened to announce non-stop strike if their demand are not met within seven days.

### 100 bags of urea seized in Sylhet

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, Mar 24: Kotwali police seized one hundred bags of urea from the Kalighat Bazar area recently. These were being sold in the black market.

Acting on a secret information, a police party seized the fertilizer when these were brought to a private firm. Police also seized the truck and arrested the driver and 3 labourers.

A case has been filed.

### Girl commits suicide

From Our Correspondent

FARIDPUR, Mar 24: An SSC examinee, Bilkis Begum, 15, daughter of one Shukur Ali of Gof Chamot area of the town committed suicide following expulsion from the examination hall recently.

According to family sources, the victim was expelled from the examination hall for adopting unfair means on Bengali paper II examination day. After being expelled she came back to her house and committed suicide by hanging herself from the ceiling rod in her bed room on the same day.

An unnatural death (UD) case was lodged with Kotwali thana in this connection.

**Headquarters Bangladesh Coast Guard**  
503, DOHS, Joar Sahara Baridhara, Dhaka-1206

### Tender Notice

1. Bangladesh Coast Guard invites tenders for purchasing the undermentioned machinery during the current (1996-97) financial year.

Sl No.	Description of Goods	Quantity
1	VHF Repeater Station (with 36m Teletower)	2 Nos.

2. Specification with necessary terms & conditions can be collected at the prescribed rate from the Coast Guard Headquarters on any working day within 0900-1200 hours up to 31 March '97.

3. Tenders will be received in the tender box kept at the undermentioned office from 1200 to 1230 hours of 01 April, '97 and will be opened on the same day at 1300 hours before the tenderers (if any) present.

4. The Director General, Coast Guard reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

DFP-6328-17/3  
G-814

**Director (Operation)**  
for Director General

**Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Director, CEMSU  
Kurmitola, Dhaka-1229

"পাছ লাগান, পাছের পরিচর্যা করুন এবং পরিবেশকে বাঁচান"  
বিমান বন্দরকে পরিষ্কার রাখুন

### Notice Inviting International Tender

#### Tender No CEMSU -15/96-97

Sealed tenders under Two-Envelop System are hereby invited from the manufacturers/bonafide suppliers or their local agents for the undermentioned work which will be received up to 12-00 Noon on 20-05-97 in the office of the Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka and in the office of the Director, CEMSU, CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka and the Technical Offers will be opened on the same day at 12-15 PM in presence of the tenderers or their authorised representatives (if any). The date and time for opening of the Financial Offers shall be notified later on.

Name of work : (a) Supply, installation, Testing and Commissioning of ATC Simulator of Civil Aviation Training Centre (CATC) & (b) Training for Non-Radar control unit of Civil Aviation Training Centre (CATC) on turnkey basis under the French-Bangladesh Financial protocol of 1995.

Fixed earnest money amounting to Tk 12,000,000/- (Taka twelve lakh) only (refundable) in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order drawn on any scheduled bank of Bangladesh in favour of Director, CEMSU, CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka must be submitted along with the Technical Offer. The earnest money also be submitted in the form of Bank Guarantee issued from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh as per format attached in the tender document.

Tender papers and schedule of items of work may be had from office of the Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka, PA's to Member (Ops & Plans), Member (Finance), Chief Engineer, and Cash Section of the office of the Director (Finance) of CAAB HQ and Director, CEMSU, CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka during office hours on payment of Tk 2,000/- (Taka two thousand) only (non-refundable). The intending tenderers may apply in their letterheads for purchase of tender documents. No tender paper will be sold on the date fixed for opening of tender. Other terms and conditions can be seen in the office of the Director, CEMSU, CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka.

The authority reserves the right to accept any tender or part thereof or reject all the tenders without assigning any reason.

DFP-6788-22/3  
G-811

**Director, CEMSU**  
CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka

**Gas Transmission Company Limited (GTCL)**  
(A Company of Petrobangla)  
House No 1, Road No 12, Sector No 3  
Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230

### Sub: Re-Tender Notice for Minibus & Microbus hire

Sealed tenders are invited from reputed transport/rent-a-car firms for hiring 2 (two) 12 (twelve) seater & 2 (two) 15 (fifteen) seater minibuses and a 30 (thirty) seater minibus of superior standard and with modern facilities for commuting the officers/employees working at this company to & from the Head Office at Sector 3 of Uttara Model Town. Tender can be deposited in the tender box kept at the office of the company at the above address up to 12.00 Noon of 01.04.97, which will be opened on the same day at 12.30 PM in presence (if any) of the tenderers or their representatives. Tender schedule containing terms & conditions of supplying the vehicles will be available from the Cash Section (Finance Department) of the company at the above address at Tk 500/- (five hundred) only (non-refundable) in cash up to 31.03.97. Tenderers who have earlier purchased the tender schedule against the original tender will be re-supplied tender schedule free of cost subject to submission of documents. Earnest money at the rate 2.5% of yearly quoted rental should be submitted with the tender in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft from any commercial bank in favour of "Gas Transmission Company Limited, Dhaka." No tender schedule will be sold on the date of opening tender.

The authority reserves the right to accept any tender or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

DFP-6169-15/3  
G-813

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

### Tender Notice

No-18/Development/PSS/Madrasa/Latrine/FD/SZ/96-97 Dated: 9/3/97

Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No-2911 are invited from Facilities Department's A-1/A-2/A-3 class enlisted contractors for construction work of sanitary latrine at Thana level selected Private High School & Madrasa under Private Secondary Educational Institution Development & Rehabilitation (Govt/Private) Project. Name of each educational institution, estimated cost as well as other terms & conditions will be available in the tender document. Contractors who have submitted renewal fee for 1996-97 can collect tender from the office of the undersigned and office of the Executive Engineer, Facilities Department, Moulvibazar/Comilla/Noakhali/Chittagong/ Cox's Bazar/Chandpur/Rangamati Zone and Office of the Assistant Engineer, Facilities Department, Sunamganj on production of original registration book and VAT registration certificate. Tk 400/00 (four hundred) only (non-refundable) as cost per set of tender should be submitted at the time of purchasing tender. Last date of purchasing tender is 01/04/97 (up to office hours) and tender documents will be received at the abovementioned offices up to 2:00 PM of 02/04/97 and will be opened on the same day at 2:30 PM in presence of the contractors (if any) present.

Time limit for completion of work is 02 (two) months. 2% (two per cent) of the estimated cost as earnest money should be submitted with the tender through Bank Draft/Pay Order from any scheduled bank in favour of the Executive Engineer, Facilities Department, Sylhet Zone.

#### Instructions to tenderers:

- Attested photocopy of enlistment registration book and VAT registration certificate should be submitted with the tender.
- Rate quoted in the tender by the contractors concerned should be written in figures & words.
- Tenders will be treated as cancelled outright if the tender submit tender at rate more than 5% (five per cent) below the estimated cost.
- In consideration of the practical situation 01(one) unit sanitary latrine may be constructed at the selected educational institution instead of 02 (two) unit sanitary latrine on final decision of the higher authority whereas no objection/excuse of contractor/contractory firm will be entertained.
- No bill of latrine construction work will be paid until handover to school/madrasa authority after completion of construction work of latrine.
- The respective contractor cannot claim any financial benefit if the name of the educational institution mentioned in the tender document is changed/cancelled.
- Contractors who could not complete earlier work even after expiry of prescribed time without any feasible reason cannot participate in this tender. Tender may be sold subject to certificate by the Assistant Engineer concerned as to how long it will take to complete the unfinished work.
- "Income Tax" and "Value Added Tax" will be deducted against the bill of the said work as per rules in accordance with the Tax Policy of Bangladesh Govt.
- Bill of the contractor will be paid only subject to receipt of allotment. But the contractor will be found to complete the work within the prescribed time.

The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

**Md Afzal Hossain Pradhan**  
Executive Engineer  
Facilities Department  
Sylhet Zone, Sylhet

DFP-6534-19/3  
G-815