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The Offer should be dropped on 10/05/1998 up to 11 am in the tender box kept at the Establishment Department, Pubali Bank Limited, Head Office, 12th Floor. The offers will be opened on the same date at 11.15a.m in presence of the bidders (if any).

Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason.

MD. OSMAN GHANI
DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER

Metropolitan Devise ways to raise output, PM urges agriculturists

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday called upon the agriculturists to find out ways of increasing production in the limited lands of the country to free the nation from hunger, reports UNB.

"The government has targeted to build up a hunger-free nation and laid utmost importance on agriculture — the main source of national income," she said.

The Prime Minister was addressing the newly elected office bearers of the Krishibid Institution at her office.

About a dozen members of the institution, including the newly elected leaders, led by its Chairman Enamul Huq and Secretary General Abdul Mannan, came to meet the Prime Minister.

Hasina said Bangladesh is a land of agriculture and the contribution of agriculture is enormous in the country's economy. So, the government has given special importance for boosting agricultural production.

"The country's population, currently 120 million, is rising day by day; but the land is not increasing. So, we'll have to innovate a system to increase production," she said.

She said the growth rate of the country has increased last year, estimated at 5.9 per cent. Of this, the contribution of agriculture was very significant — more than 6 per cent.

About the rise of prices of agricultural products, Hasina said when production increases, the price falls and when production decreases, then the price shoots up creating problem for the poor consumers.

And there should be some sort of mechanism to strike a balance between production and prices for the sake of both producers and consumers, she added.

Referring to the need for proper and optimum use of land, the Prime Minister said the officials of Agriculture Department should motivate people to use all their lands — fer-

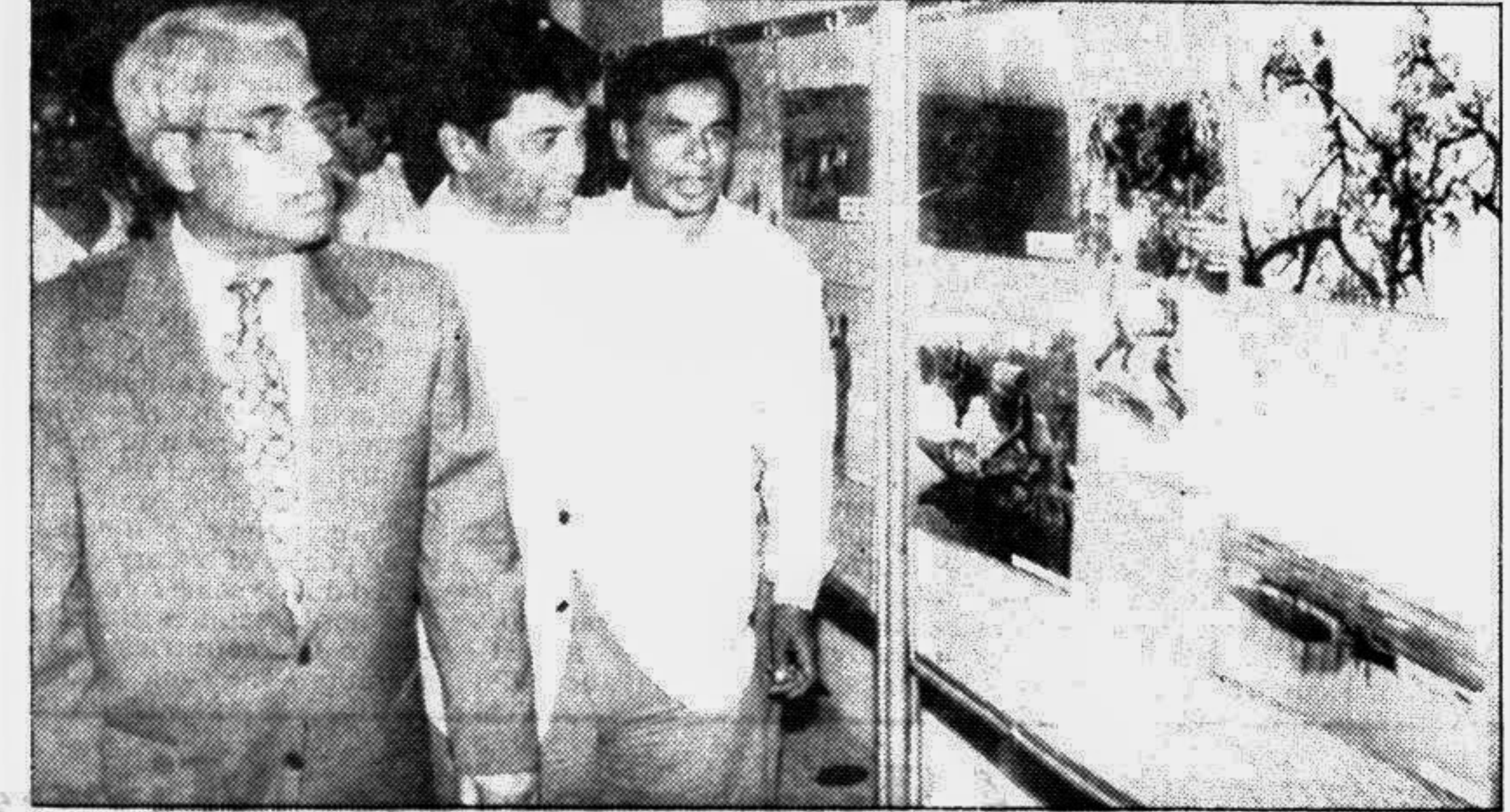
tile or fallow.

In this regard, she said the government has already directed the concerned authorities not to allow the use of fertile lands for constructing buildings, nor for industries. Use fallow lands for such purpose.

BDR demolishes poppy seeds on 107.88 acres

Bangladesh Rifles has demolished poppy seeds on 107.88 acres of land in Ballpara of Bandarban district at the instruction of the authority concerned, reports UNB.

Opium, a kind of drug is made from poppy seeds. These lands are located under CIO camps in Modok, Chhotomohu, Dalianpara, Ionrai, Tendumukh and Thanchi where poppy seeds were being cultivated in large scale, said a press release yesterday.



Anisur Rahman (Left), Chairman, Opex Group of Industries, inaugurated a three-day photography exhibition and competition titled 'Ruposhi Bangla' organised by the Bangladesh Photojournalist Association at its gallery yesterday. Anisur Haq, Chairman, Mohammadi Group of Industries, attended the function as chief guest. — Star photo

Three-day photography exhibition opens

By Staff Correspondent

An exhibition of 150 photos by 48 photojournalists held at the photogallery of Bangladesh Photojournalists' Association (BPJA) yesterday evening, says a press release.

Industrialist and Chairman of Opex Group Anisur Rahman inaugurated the exhibition at around 5 pm.

Presided over by Mohammad Salahuddin, the inaugural ceremony was addressed among others by Chairman of Mohammadi Group Anisur Haq, Khurshid Jahan Haq MP and BPJA General Secretary AKM Mohsin.

Shafiuddin Ahmed Bitu of The Daily Inqilab won the first prize while Nurunnabi Rabi of The Daily Janata and Mahub Hossain Khan of The Daily Sangbad got the second and third prize respectively.

Sheikh Mohammad Enamul Haq of The Daily Star got a special prize.

What's on today . . .

- Discussion:** A discussion on 'Mujibnagar Government', organised by the Bangla Academy, will be held. Venue: Academy seminar room. Time: 11 am.
- Workshop:** A day-long workshop on 'Second Water Facilities Data Book', organised jointly by Asian Development Bank and Dhaka WASA, will be held. Venue: Hotel Purbani International. Time: 9 am.
- Conference:** A conference of businessmen and entrepreneurs, organised by the Inter Association Sick Industry Rehabilitation Council, will be held. Venue: National Press Club auditorium. Time: 10 am.
- Scientific session:** A scientific session on 'Advance management of paediatric nephrology patients', organised by the Bangladesh Paediatric Association, will be held. Venue: Millon Hall, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (FG Hospital). Time: 12 noon.
- Film show:** As part of a retrospective of films by Peter Lilienthal 'David' will be screened. Organiser: Goethe Institute in cooperation with Bangladesh Short Film Forum and Bangladesh Federation of Film Societies. Venue: German Cultural Centre. Time: 6 pm.
- AIUB seminar:** A seminar on prospects and scopes for higher education in Canada titled 'Post-secondary education in Canada: Myths and realities' will be held. Venue: AMA International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) campus, 9, Mohakhali. Time: 2 pm.
- Painting exhibition:** A week-long water colour painting exhibition by three artists — Ariful Islam Arif, Rayhanul Kabir Rayhan and Mahmudur Rahman Dipon will begin. Venue: Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts, DU. Time: 5 pm. The exhibition will remain open from 2 to 7 pm everyday till April 27.
- Club meeting:** The weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka North will be held. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 6 pm.

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Closing date : 30 April 1998.

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Weather

Thundershowers forecast

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary *kalbaisakhi*, gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at one or places over Dhaka, Barisal and Sylhet divisions and the regions of Pabna, Bogra, Comilla, Noakhali, Jessore and Kushtia during next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

According to the Met Office, weather may remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country.

Slight fall in day temperature is expected across the country.

The country's highest temperature 35.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rajshahi and Khulna and the lowest 19.3 degree Celsius at Srimangal.

The sun sets today at 6:22 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:32 am.

Maximum and minimum temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in Percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	34.0	24.0	77	89
Chittagong	32.7	24.0	73	80
Rajshahi	35.2	24.8	82	57
Khulna	35.2	25.3	81	63
Barisal	34.0	24.0	84	70
Sylhet	29.5	21.8	-	72
Cox's Bazar	34.1	23.8	62	73

Audio cassette of Tagore song launched

By Staff Correspondent

'Doordeshi Sheri Rakhhal Cheley' — an audio cassette of Tagore song by Radio and TV singer Tajim Sultana, was formally launched in the city yesterday evening.

Syed Hasan Imam, a renowned TV personality and the president of Udichi Shilpi Goshthi, formally launched the cassette through a simple ceremony held at the Liberation War Museum.

Veteran Tagore song singer Ajit Roy, the music director of the cassette, Faruque Faisal of Ad-Emire, the producer of the cassette, Mahmood Seli, the general secretary of Udichi and the singer herself were present on the occasion among others.

Police or DCC yet to trace killer garbage truck

By Staff Correspondent

The Police or the Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) was yet to trace the driver or the container garbage truck that killed a 36-year-old businessman late Friday night on Abdul Gani Road near the Secretariat.

Samiruddin Ahmed was killed instantly when the DCC truck smashed his Vespa from the wrong side of the road and later crushed him under its wheel and fled. Samir's wife sustained serious injury and his seven-year-old son escaped unhurt in the accident.

DCC sources said they had questioned several drivers and sweepers of the 104-truck fleet of the container garbage trucks but could not find any clue.

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