

## Barisal 5 by-election

## Candidates striving hard to woo voters

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, July 15: As the by-election date is drawing nearer, the supporters and workers of Awami League (AL), Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and Jatiyo Party (JP) are becoming more and more involved in the election campaign.

Activists of contending political parties are now visiting the voters' homes very off and on in the town area. They are also going to village areas by boats, speed boats and other marine vessels. They are using mikes and wooing the voters from door to door. They are requesting them to cast their votes in favour of their candidates.

Earlier, PM's Political Advisor Suranjit Sengupta MP, and Presidium member and Commerce Minister Tofael Ahmed MP, Tele-Communication Minister Md Nasim and some other MPs of the ruling party visited Barisal. They met with the local leaders and workers and attended party meetings in different places of

the electoral area. BNP General Secretary Mannan Bhuiyan MP, Major (ret'd) Hafiz MP, other members of parliament (MPs) of BNP also visited different areas here. On Sunday evening BNP central leader KM Obaidur Rahman, Selima Rahman including the local leaders and workers of BNP met with the local journalists at the Barisal Press Club. Here they categorically alleged that the AL central leaders, ministers and chief whip are violating the Election Code of Conduct.

They are using government machinery, frequently alluring the people here with promises of development programmes in near future. It is unfair, they added.

Earlier, Mannan Bhuiyan, Secretary General of BNP said, the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) in a letter to the Prime Minister requested her to ensure that no minister, state minister, deputy minister or any person having same status

will pay any official or unofficial visit to the Barisal-5 (sadar) constituency for keeping the by-election above any controversy.

Jatiyo Party leaders are also raising some allegations against the ruling party members.

Evidently it has become clear that both the Awami League and BNP are heading towards a tougher contest to win the electoral race here.

It may be recalled that since independence AL candidate won this seat only once in 1973 while BNP candidate won the seat in 1979, 1991, 1991 by-election, 1996 and the controversial election of 15th February, 1996. Jatiyo Party candidate won this seat in the general election of 1983 and 1988 during Ershad's regime.

Ershad will address a public meeting here on 17th July and Begum Khaleda Zia is also expected to visit Barisal on July 18.

## 4 vigilance teams to monitor election process

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, July 15: Four vigilance teams have been formed by the Returning Officer (Deputy Commissioner, Barisal) here for Barisal-5 Constituency by-election following a directive of the Election Commission. The by-election has been scheduled to be held on July 20.

The vigilance teams will monitor the overall election process and inform the higher authorities about the conditions and irregularities, if there be any from time to time.

The entire electoral areas here have been divided into four sections to monitor the election situation time to time smoothly.

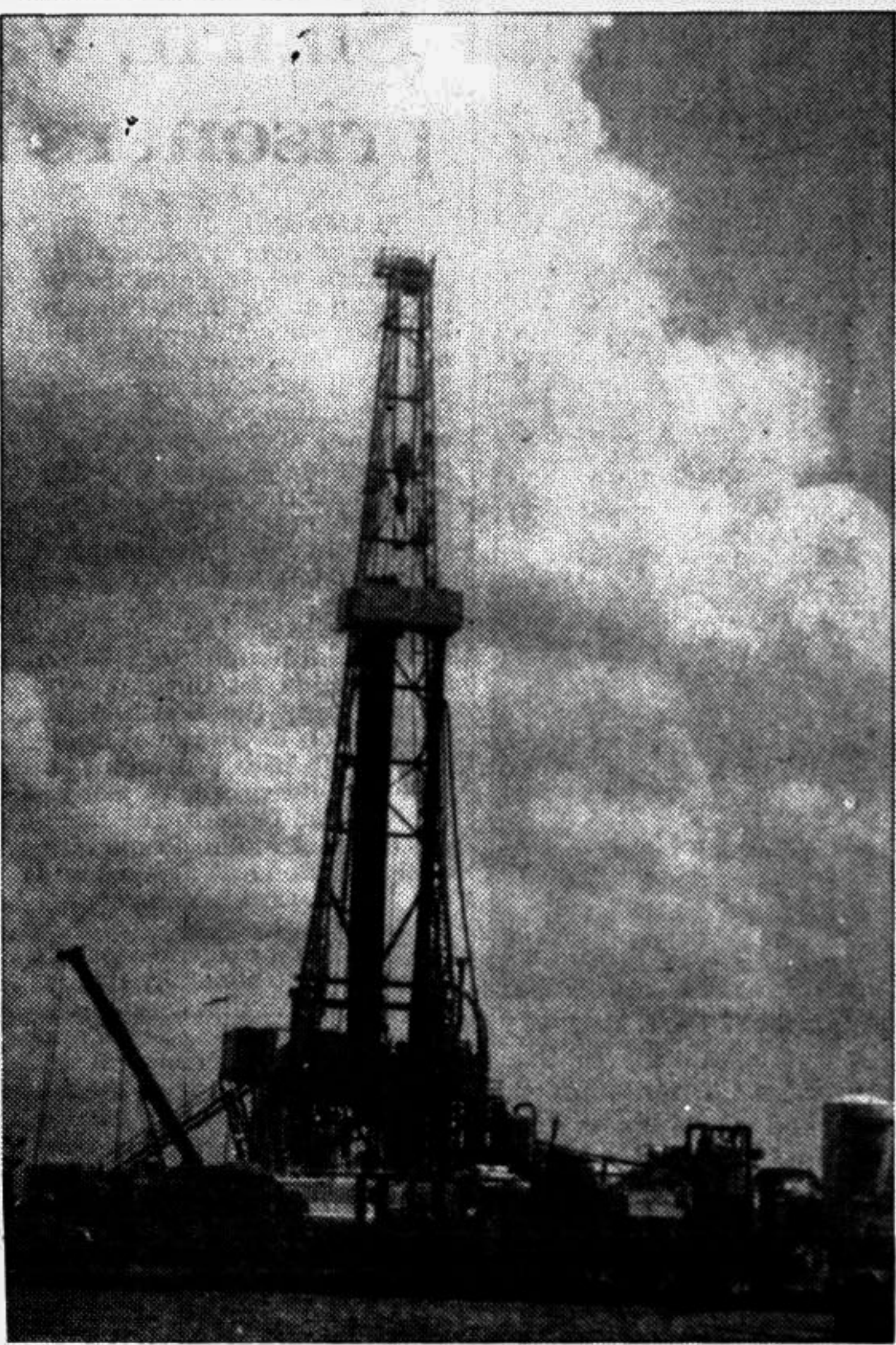
The Election Commission has already deputed 93 presiding officers, 453 assistant presiding officers and 906 polling officers to conduct the by-election fairly and peacefully on July 20. On the date a total of 2,12,083 voters (of which 1,10,353 males and 1,01,730 females) of Barisal-5 Constituency consisting of 10 unions and a pourasava area, will cast their votes in 906 polling booths of 93 centres.

## One chopped to death

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, July 15: One person was chopped to death by unidentified miscreants at village Gokul Nagar under Salkokupa thana of the district on Monday afternoon.

The victim, Monihar Biswas, 65, was witness in a murder case, police said.



SYLHET: The US company Occidental has started downing the Rig at its exploratory well 'Bibiana-1' at Dighalbak in the remote village of Nabiganj thana last week.

— Star photo by Iqbal Siddiquee

## Road accidents decrease after opening of BJMB

From Our Correspondent

RANGPUR, July 15: Road accidents, which occurred frequently previously have come to a halt since opening of Bangabandhu Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge (BJMB) on June 23.

Reports gathered from different places of the northern region revealed, no major road accidents occurred during the past two weeks since June 23.

At present, there are no traffic jams, no mad rush of vehicles, no queue of vehicles on either side of the BJMB. No race of the vehicles to overtake each other is visible now. These are now common scenes in the long routes of the northern districts.

It is most interesting to note here, all the long route passenger buses are running through BJMB in a pleasant manner.

The experienced circles have opined, BJMB has practically brought a sigh of relief in minds of passengers. People of all sections are treating the BJMB as a blessing.

Farmers of the region are now very much hopeful that they would get fair marketing facilities to sell their produce at fair price. No more they will be kept as hostages in the hands of the middle-men, 'dalals' and 'farias'.

According to a survey report, since January '97 upto June '98 about 1,245 persons were killed and 5,000 injured in road accidents in the northern region. At least 3,000 road mishaps occurred during this period in the region, police and other sources said.

Most of these mishaps took place following rash driving and mad race of the long route passenger buses, trucks and other motor vehicles to avail of 'first chance' of the ferries.

Bus and truck owners are now very much happy with the opening of BJMB to traffic since its inaugural day. Moreover, they have expressed satisfaction for safety of their property and human life. The night coach owners, in the meantime, called upon the government to provide sufficient security measures for long route bus passengers as armed miscreants are active along the national highway.

Local people urged the authority concerned to implement the much expected project without further delay.

Pirates loot two fishing boats

LAXMIPUR, July 15: Pirates swooped on two engine boats at Char Gazaria Island in Rangali thana and looted goods worth about Tk 12 lakh throwing 30 fishermen in the river Meghna on Monday, reports UNB.

Of the fishermen, 28 were rescued by their fellow men from another boat while two others, identified as Faruq and Nurunnabi, were still missing.

A case was filed with the local police.

## Attack on magistrate in Natore court room

From Our Correspondent

NATORE, July 15: Some unscrupulous persons numbering about 20 have allegedly attacked a magistrate in the court room recently after cancellation of a bail prayer by the magistrate of two accused of an arms case, court and police sources said.

Meanwhile, police arrested Quamrul Islam Sizan and

Mintu, both students of Natore Government Boys' High School, with a pipe-gun in Sizan's school bag from the class room of the school last month, police sources said.

According to court sources, a prayer for bail for the two accused persons was placed before the court of First Class Magistrate Selim Akhtar on the day

and the magistrate rejected to issue bail.

After the rejection, unscrupulous people who were present at the court room got agitated and assaulted the magistrate. They fled from the place soon after the incident.

However, when contacted, the DC, Natore expressed his ignorance about the matter.



## BANGLADESH FREEDOM FIGHTERS' WELFARE TRUST

"SWADHINATA BHABAN" PROCUREMENT SECTION  
88, MOTIJHEEL COMMERCIAL AREA, DHAKA-1000.

## INTERNATIONAL/LOCAL TENDER NOTICE

| S/NO | TENDER NO & DATE                         | NAME OF ITEM                        | EARNEST MONEY | COST OF SCHEDULE (NON REFUND-ABLE) | LAST DATE & TIME OF DROPPING TENDER | DATE & TIME OF OPENING TENDER | SOURCE OF FUND       |
|------|--|-------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1.   | PT/TA/INT / TR-269 / 98-99<br>DT:13-7-98 | 1. CROWN CORK                       | 1 1/2 %       | TK. 500/=                          | 17-8-98 UP TO 12-00 HOURS           | 17-8-98 AT 12-15 HOURS        | YEN/ANY OTHER SOURCE |
| 2.   | PT/TA/INT / TR-270 / 98-99<br>DT:13-7-98 | 1. LITER CLOSER PLASTIC             | DO            | TK. 500/=                          | DO                                  | DO                            | DO                   |
| 3.   | PT/TA/INT / TR-271 / 98-99<br>DT:13-7-98 | 1. PAPER CUP                        | DO            | TK. 400/=                          | DO                                  | DO                            | DO                   |
| 4.   | PT/TA/INT / TR-272 / 98-99<br>DT:13-7-98 | 1. ONE LITER COCA-COLA GLASS BOTTLE | DO            | TK. 700/=                          | DO                                  | DO                            | DO                   |

TENDERS SHOULD BE DROPPED IN THE BOX KEPT AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS. SEPARATE SEPARATE TENDER SCHEDULE WITH DETAILED PARTICULARS MAY BE HAD FROM THE FINANCE DIVISION OF BANGLADESH FREEDOM FIGHTERS' WELFARE TRUST, 88, MOTIJHEEL COMMERCIAL AREA, DHAKA, ON EVERY WORKING DAY FROM 10-00 AM TO 1-00 PM. NO SCHEDULE WILL BE SOLD ON THE DATE OF OPENING TENDER. AUTHORITY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ACCEPT OR REJECT ANY OR ALL THE TENDERS WITHOUT ASSIGNING ANY REASON.

(A.F.M. ZAKARIA)

GENERAL MANAGER (INDS. &amp; COM.)

## Building Capacity for Local Governance

(BGD/97/001)

## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Sectoral Training Specialist  
OFFICE MANAGEMENT (FINANCE/BUDGETING/ACCOUNTS & CREDIT)

Duration : Initially up to the end of February 1999; extending to 30 June 2002  
Station : National Institute of Local Government, Dhaka

In close collaboration with the National Project Director, international consultants and staff of National Institute of Local Government (NILG), and in close conjunction with the Project Implementation Specialist, the consultant will, with an explicit focus on office management:

- CONTRIBUTE to the needs assessment study and report for nation-wide training of elected local representatives at the union parishad and pourashava level, together with the training needs of appointed government servants at the local level, as decided, ensuring that the design and content is country-specific and that operational and substantive contents reflect local needs;
- CONDUCT and FACILITATE participatory consultations/workshops with women and men elected representatives and women and men constituents as an input to the needs assessment exercise;
- CONTRIBUTE to the preparation of the user-friendly training manuals and render these manuals into Bangla for nation-wide distribution; manuals will be prepared for both elected officials at the union parishad level as well as for union parishad secretaries and other appointed officials as decided;
- ORGANISE and CONDUCT training of trainers upon completion of the needs assessment; training of trainers to be completed within the schedule of the preparatory phase, that is, in the first ten months of the project;
- MONITOR the gender aspects of the training programme, both in terms of content and trainee response;
- APPRAISE, REVISE and AUGMENT content and design of training courses throughout the project lifetime to keep in tune with the changes underway for the restructuring of the local government system and to incorporate feedback from course participants, District Training Advisers and local constituents;
- MAKE necessary, periodic modifications to the training manuals to accommodate changes in laws, policies and priorities of the GoB; and
- PLAN, SCHEDULE and IMPART refresher training courses for elected local representatives and appointed officials as and when the need arises.

## Qualifications :

The incumbent will have a minimum post-graduate qualification in the respective field plus extensive working experience in this speciality. The incumbent is expected to be sensitive to issues related to gender mainstreaming.

## APPLICATIONS (Please read carefully)

Applications should be marked 'Confidential' and:

- include a short statement explaining your suitability for the position;
- include two copies of your curriculum vitae;

**Note:** No photographs, references, certificates or professional papers should be submitted at this time.

Applications should be sent to:

The Manager  
Human Resources Department  
United Nations Development Programme (ref: BGD/97/001)  
House 60 Road 11A, Dhanmondi R/A  
Dhaka 1205

All applications must be received within 14 days of this advertisement. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

Any attempt to influence the process of selection will result in the immediate termination of the candidate's application.

Remuneration packages will be based on current UNDP consultancy scales

WOMEN ARE PARTICULARLY ENCOURAGED TO APPLY

National Project Director  
BGD/97/001

## News snaps

## Number of child labourers increasing

SUNAMGANJ, July 15: The number of child labourers is increasing alarmingly in the district due to abject poverty caused by river erosion and other natural calamities, reports UNB.

A large number of children aged between 8 and 12 with their families are coming the district headquarters from rural areas and opting for petty jobs like rickshawpuller, hotel boy, day labourer and domestic servant to earn their livelihood. A survey showed that 60 per cent of children come from poor family whose parents are very poor and jobless. They are forced to engage their children in hard work. For this, school dropout rate is increasing as the parents can not afford the expense of education for their children hampering the compulsory education programme in the district.

## Dy Speaker distributes old-age allowance

KISHOREGANJ, July 15: A total of 630 people of 63 years in seven unions were given money in cash of the last three months and passbooks under Old-age Allowance scheme at Ostagram thana here on Tuesday, reports UNB.

Deputy Speaker Advocate Abdul Hamid distributed the cash and pass books at a function organised by thana Social Welfare Department at the Ostagram High School ground. Addressing the function, he said the government undertook the scheme to alleviate poverty of the distressed people across the country. The Deputy Speaker urged the affluent section of people to come forward for welfare of helpless people of the society. He also sought all out cooperation from all concerned for successful implementation of the epoch-making scheme of the government.

## Scarcity of HYV Aman seeds

NETROKONA, July 15: Aman cultivation is being hampered during the current season as the farmer are facing acute shortage of High Yielding Variety (HYV) of transplanted Aman seeds in 10 thanas of the district, reports UNB.

The BADC approved dealers are charging higher price of the BR-32, BR-11, BR-30 variety seeds which are being sold at Tk 200, 170 and 190 per 10-kg packet respectively. Farmers could not procure Aman seeds due to heavy rainfall and other unfavourable weather condition during the last harvesting season. Although the dealers are getting commission at a considerable rate from the BADC yet they are charging a higher rate than of government rate. Local farmers urged the concerned authority to take necessary steps to mitigate the seed problem.

## Over Tk 1 cr uplift projects implemented

NOAKHALI, July 15: Companiganj Thana Parishad under Noakhali district has implemented 175 development projects at a cost of taka one crore and ten thousand in the fiscal year 1997-98 with the financial assistance of the Asian Development Bank and the Care, a non-government organisation, reports BSS.

The project, included constructions of roads, culverts, and bridges and repairs of primary schools in the rural areas, a thana parishad source said.

## Training course on vegetable farming

MANIKGANJ, July 15: A one-day training course on vegetable cultivation in the yard of dwelling houses was held at Satura on July 13, reports BSS.

The training course included vegetable cultivation, preservation of seeds and vegetables, making and using compost fertilizer and cooking. A total of 30 women of Satura thana took part in the training course. District Agriculture Extension Department conducted the course.

## Workshop on FP activities

RANGAMATI, July 15: A three-day workshop on "Motivation of Imam and Madrasah Teachers in Family Planning (FP) Activities" began on Tuesday at the office of the Family Planning Association of Bangladesh, here, reports BSS.

Chairman of Rangamati Hill District Local Government Council Ching Kieu Roaza inaugurated the workshop. Thirty imams and madrasah teachers are participating in the workshop.

## World Population Day observed

KHULNA, July 15: World Population Day '98 was observed here on Sunday as elsewhere in the country in a befitting manner, reports BSS.

The theme of this year's World Population Day is "Come Forward to Check Population Growth," the World Population will reach six hundred crore from five hundred crore in only 12 years from 1987 to 1999. Elaborate programmes were taken by the government, semi government and non-government organisations in observance of the day. The day's programme included colourful rally, discussion and exhibition of documentary films on population growth and its impact. A discussion meeting was held at the Khulna Officers Club under the auspices of Family Planning Association of Bangladesh, Khulna. Presided over by Principal Malik Atahar Uddin the meeting was addressed, among others, by the Khulna Divisional Commissioner Abul Kashem as the chief guest and others.

## Housewife commits suicide

MYMENSINGH, July 15: A young housewife allegedly committed suicide on Monday at Nigurkanda village in Trishal thana following a family feud, reports UNB.

Police said Amina Begum, 27, took her own life by hanging herself from a branch of tree. A UD case was filed with Trishal thana.

## Swimming training course for boys

MADARIPUR, July 15: A ten-day training course on swimming for the boys under 16 concluded at Charmaguria Merchants High School recently, reports BSS.

District Sports Association organised the training. Alhaj M A Khaleque, TNO, Madaripur sadar inaugurated the training course. Nowajban, Headmaster of the school presided over the inaugural function. A total of 70 trainees participated in the course.

## Rectified spirit seized

THAKURGAON, July 15: Eighty litres of rectified spirit were seized from a homeopathic medicine shop of Thakurgaon town recently, reports BSS.

On a tip-off Narcotics Control Officer went to the shop in disguise and wanted to purchase rectified spirit. When the owner of the shop agreed to sell the spirit the owner of the shop was arrested and 80 litres of rectified spirit were seized from the shop. In this connection a case against owner of the shop was filed with Thakurgaon police station under the Narcotics Control Act.

## Touchstone statue recovered

THAKURGAON, July 15: A statue of 'Lord Krishna' made of touchstone was recovered recently by the police from Mujibnagar, a village near Thakurgaon town, reports BSS.

On secret information a police contingent from Thakurgaon thana... aided the house of Abdur Rahman, a driver of village Mujibnagar under Thakurgaon sadar thana and recovered the statue of 'Lord Krishna' made of touchstone. The price of the statue would be about taka one lakh, police said.

## Manikganj jail work completed

MANIKGANJ, July 15: Public Works Department (PWD) completed the construction work of district jail at a cost of Taka eight crore and forty-four lakh on six acres land, reports BSS.

The newly constructed district jail will accommodate 400 prisoners. It includes main cells for prisoners, separate cells for women and juvenile prisoners office, hospital kitchen and quarters for jail police.

## Food Deptt to purchase wheat

RANGPUR, July 15: The district food department will purchase 13,000 tonnes of wheat from the growers of the district in the current wheat procurement drive, reports BSS.

At least nine purchasing centres have been established by the Food Department for procurement of wheat directly from the growers.

## 10,967 brought under EPI programme

CHUADANGA, July 15: A total of 10,967 children of four thanas and three pourashavas of the district have been brought under EPI programme during the last six months, reports BSS.

Under the programme children between age from 0 to one year have been immunised against six dangerous diseases like tuberculosis, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, measles and polio. According to an official source the local EPI Department has fixed up a target for the current year to immunise a total of 22,600 children in the district against the said six dangerous diseases. The source further said that of the total 2216 children have been immunised in Chuadanga sadar thana, 2865 in Alamdanga thana, 2521 in Damurhuda thana, 1824 in Jibanagar thana, 922 in Chuadanga pourashava, 258 in Alamdanga pourashava and 341 in Darsana pourashava in the last six month of the current year. Implementation of the rest work is in full swing.

## Five outlaws

## arrested in Satkhira

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, July 15: Police arrested five activists of outlawed Purba Bangla Sarbahara Party from Katia barasava under Satkhira pourasava recently.

Police also recovered one pipe gun including four rounds of cartridges from their possession.

The arrested persons are Maniruzzaman of Khalishpur in Khulna district, Zahid of Bagerhat, Elias and Haroon of both of Pirojpur and Emdadul Haq of Barisal district.

Police sources said, the arrested persons were suspiciously moving in the bazar area. Police personnel on duty challenged and arrested them.

After selection of the project site through Project Site Selection Committee, BSCIC sent a Project Concept Paper (PCP) to the ministry showing the estimated cost of Tk 7.74 crore on September 1992.

Later, another meeting held at Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Department (IMED) on December 24 that year on PCP, formed a six-member Inter-ministerial Observation Committee comprising the representatives from IMED, Planning Commission, Industries Ministry, Silk Board and BSCIC.

After placing the report by the committee, another meeting was held on September 30, 1993 to finalize the project and un-

dertake necessary steps in this regard. The meeting put forward a recommendation to formulate a PCP by BSCIC which estimated Tk 8.20 crore cost involvement.

Under the modified PCP, Tk 2.43 crore had been estimated for 44 plots of 75 units, Tk 22.29 lakh for land development and construction of administrative building, officers' quarter, pump, it will help produce improved quality silk clothes by setting up of silk based industries here.

Local people urged the authority concerned to implement the much expected project without further delay.

Pirates loot two fishing boats

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