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VOL. VIII NO. 258 REGD. NO. DA 781 INTERNET: <http://www.dailystarnews.com> ASHWIN 27, 1405 BS DHAKA MONDAY OCTOBER 12, 1998 JAMADIUS SAANI 20, 1419 HIJRI 16 PAGES : PRICE TAKA 6.00

Jail Killing Case Court turns down bail prayers again

By Staff Correspondent

The court of District and Session's Judge, Dhaka, rejected bail petitions of BNP leaders K M Obaidur Rahman and Nurul Islam Manjur and Jatuya Party leader Shah Mozam Hossain again yesterday.

They were arrested from their residences in the city in the early hours of September 29 in connection with the Jail Killing Case and taken on a four-day CID remand.

Officials close to the CID investigation team told The Daily Star yesterday that the charge sheet is ready.

MCS soon to try Jail Killing Case

By Staff Correspondent

The jail killing case will be tried in the Metropolitan Court of Sessions (MCS), Dhaka, scheduled to be set up shortly, law ministry officials said yesterday.

The charge sheet in the case may be submitted this week, CID officials said.

Initially two Metropolitan Courts of Sessions will be set up — one in the capital and the other in Chittagong.

The establishment ministry has already created necessary posts for the courts and the finance ministry has sanctioned the required funds.

Postings for MCS could not be made so far as the trial of Bangabandhu Murder Case was pending with the District and Sessions Judge's Court, Dhaka.

Appointments of judicial officers in the MCS will be made

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Stock market crash of '96 Scamsters may stand trial next month

By M Shamsur Rahman

Trial of the 1996 share scam cases is likely to start next month almost two years after the stock market crash, but the crucial task of appointing lawyers to lead the prosecution is yet to be done.

Thousands of small investors lost their life's savings as the stock market tumbled to unexpected lows in late 1996 after peaking to unreasonable highs. The authorities later launched an inquiry, which led to bringing charges against 15 companies including such big ones as the Beximco Pharma and Shineeupukur Holdings.

Top leaders of the present DSE council including the chairman were also charged with irregularities. Facing the trial is also a former chairman. Officials at the finance ministry

and SEC said they were hoping to see the long-awaited trial start next month.

Sources say the law ministry is yet to act on the repeated finance ministry requests to name special public prosecutors (PPs) to deal with the sensational cases.

The finance ministry had already proposed three names for appointment as Special PPs after a high-level meeting chaired by the finance minister decided in July to hire reputed lawyers for the purpose.

The finance ministry suggested Dr M Zahir, Dr Mohammad Ali and Syed Hyder Ali as Special PPs. A senior law ministry official yesterday confirmed receipt of the finance ministry suggestions and said the issue

was being looked into on a priority basis.

Meanwhile, the law ministry recently appointed Syed Rezaur Rahman as a Special PP. Trial of the scamsters is seen as one that could instil confidence in hapless investors, still shy to operate in the market even after automation of the trading systems.

The beginning of trial could bring back some confidence at the moment," said a market analyst, reflecting the mood of most small and medium investors.

The market is yet to pick up at an expected pace even after the two bourses installed computerised trading facility. The CSE went on line in June and DSE in August this year.

25 ministers spent 832 days abroad in '96-97

By Nurul Kabir

Twenty-five ministers and state ministers together spent 832 days in foreign countries during the 1996-97 fiscal.

Of them, 13 ministers were abroad for 48 days and Environment and Forest Minister Begum Sajeda Chowdhury 46 days.

Mohammad Nasim, in charge of two ministries, posts and telecommunication and housing and public works, was outside the country for 41 days.

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Abdul Matin Khasru spent 41 days in different countries. Minister for Health and Family Welfare Salauddin Yusuf 30 days, Water Resources Minister Abdur Razak 27 days, Food and Agriculture Minister Begum Matia

Spent 66 days abroad.

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad topped the list with 97 days, followed by Tofail Ahmed who runs two ministries — Industries and Commerce. He spent 66 days abroad.

Finance Minister S A M S Kibria was out of the country for 63 days.

Religious Affairs Minister Maulana Nurul Islam was abroad for 48 days and Environment and Forest Minister Begum Sajeda Chowdhury 46 days.

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Dhaka ready to host D-8 summit early next year

By Staff Correspondent

Dhaka will host the D-8 summit early next year if any other member of the newly formed economic bloc becomes unable to offer an alternative venue for it this year, reports UNB.

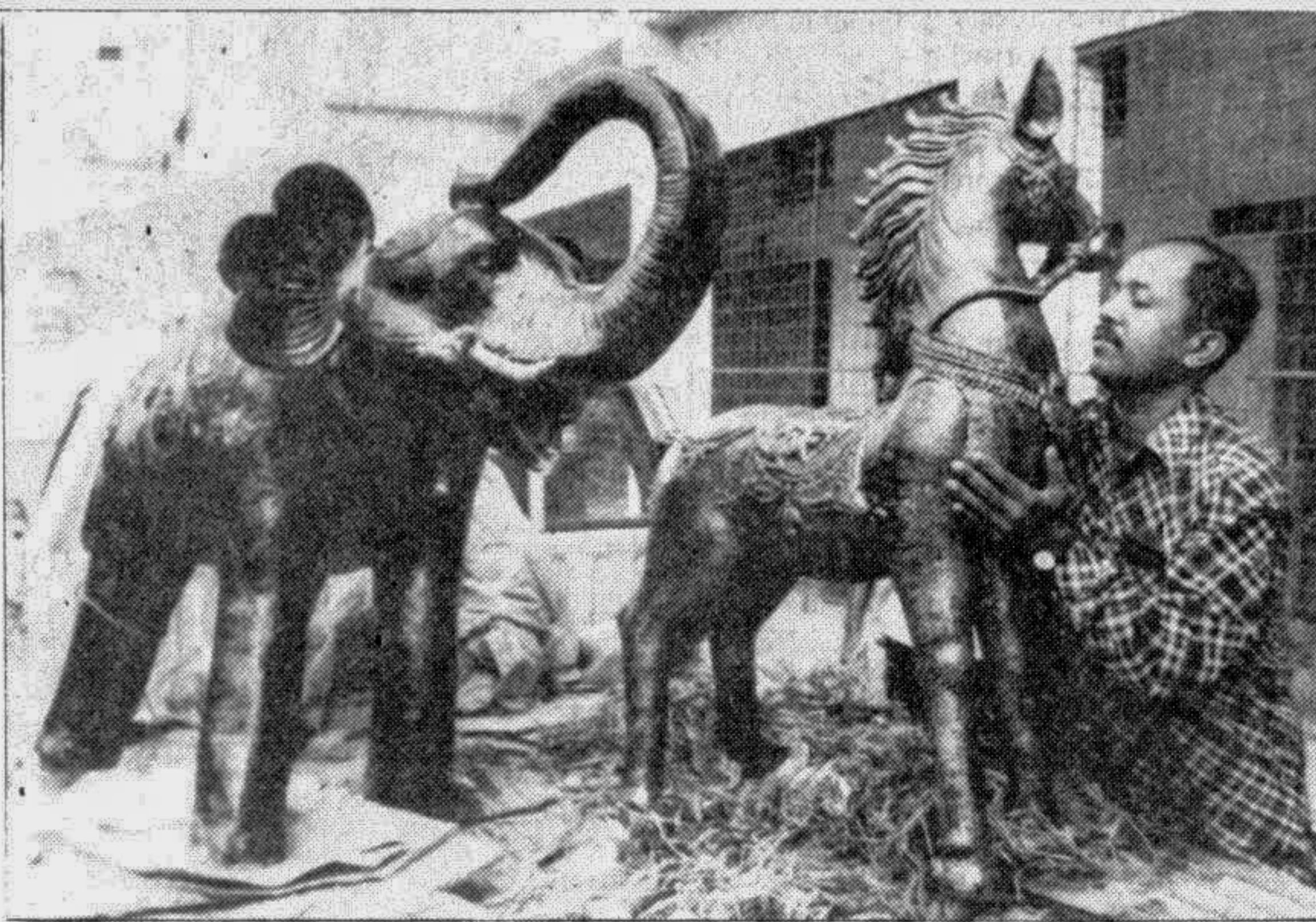
Bangladesh had earlier expressed its inability to host the summit this November because of prolonged flood.

Responding to queries from newsmen at his office yesterday afternoon, Foreign Secretary Mustafizur Rahman said Dhaka has already approached the D-8 Secretariat to find an alternative venue for the summit. No member country agreed so far.

If the alternative venue is not available, "we will host the summit early next year," the Foreign Secretary said.

The D-8 forum, launched in

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Potters paint the last touches to decoration pieces, planned for display outside the Bangabandhu Stadium. A massive face lifting work has been taken up ahead of the Oct 24-Nov 1 cricket extravaganza, dubbed Mini World Cup, in Dhaka.

JU rape incidents JCD's memo to President for trial of culprits

By DU Correspondent

BNP-backed Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) yesterday submitted a memorandum to President Shahabuddin Ahmed demanding arrest and trial of 13 students involved in the rape incident at Jahangirnagar University (JU).

JCD brought out a procession from the Dhaka University campus which proceeded towards the Bangabhaban.

When resisted by police, they held a rally near Zero Point.

At the rally JCD leaders condemned the rape incident and blasted the JU authorities for not punishing the culprits properly.

Later they submitted a memorandum to the President through the PS.

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DU professor pays for his lust for money

By DU Correspondent

A professor of economics at Dhaka University has been sacked for giving high scores to undeserving students in exchange for money.

In probably the first ever such incident, the DU Syndicate decided to send Prof A.H.M. Mahbul Alam into retirement Saturday after recommendation from a tribunal it set up to try the teacher.

The probe into the allegations of his corrupt practices began roughly four years ago.

In fact, there were allegations galore against the professor, but the one of giving higher scores was proved beyond doubt, the DU authorities said.

The charges also included that he had sold "question papers", allowed students to write

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answers scripts at his residence and took money from students for other purposes.

The charges came to light through press reports, which led the Economics Department Academic Committee to ask the vice chancellor to take necessary steps. Students also raised their voice.

A fact-finding committee was formed on December 3 1994, and the Syndicate decided to frame charges against the teacher on the basis of its report.

Following an inquiry by a five-person committee, launched December 28 1995, the Syndicate framed charges against him.

A three-member tribunal

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HOWS THAT? Tejgaon rail station, 10:10 am yesterday. A policeman takes a timeout from his regulation duty to make quick bucks on a petty trader. The poor trader paid the fare for carrying the bucket on the train, but the man in uniform has his own reasons to think otherwise. The extra money — Tk 40 when boarding the train with a bucket and Tk 2 for an empty one as these poor fellows told our chief photographer A K M Mohsin — goes to his pocket!

Teenage girl gangraped in city

By Staff Correspondent

A teenage girl was allegedly gangraped at a garage in city's Postogola area in the early hours of yesterday.

Two young men, identified as Reaz and Dulal were arrested for their alleged involvement in the rape, police said.

The 18-year-old girl from Amanatganj, Barisal, arrived in the city by a launch along with her aunt and cousin Saturday morning.

The victim along with her cousin went to visit her brother-in-law near Alam Market in Postogola while her aunt was out to see her relatives

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Labour Ministry renamed

The government has renamed the Ministry of Labour and Manpower as "Ministry of Labour and Employment," an official notification said in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

This will come into force immediately.

6 former Shantibahini men freed from jail

From Shuvra Jyoti Chakna

KHAGRACHHARI, Oct 11: The government has released six of the 22 convicted former Shantibahini guerillas and the rest will also be released as per the CHT peace accord.

The six were released on October 7 from Comilla, Chittagong and Khagrachhari jails in the first phase, according to sources in the district administration and the PCJSS leadership.

The 22 former Shantibahini members were arrested at different times and convicted for treason and in cases under the Arms Act.

The released six are: Karunamoy Chakma alias Kanto of village Babuchhara under Dighinala thana, Tulu Chakma of village tribal Adam under Rangamatli thana, Araiching Marm of village Bethania in Rangamatli, Chikho Chakma of village Manatek

under Mahalchhari thana, Pushpa Chakma of Jurachhari thana and Sujan Chakma of village Patharghata under Rangamatli thana.

PCJSS had submitted lists of its arrested activists of five months ago. It had also submitted lists of cases filed against them.

The Shantibahinimen are being released according to the lists submitted by the PCJSS and the CHT peace accord signed on December 2 last year.

When contacted over telephone, A K M Jafrul Hossain, Deputy Commissioner of Khagrachhari told this correspondent that government had started releasing all the arrested former Shantibahinimen.

He said the lists submitted by the PCJSS were sent to the home ministry and to the President for "amnesty."

ACC Trophy Bangladesh face Malaysia in final tomorrow

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh will take on Malaysia in the final of the Second ACC Trophy tomorrow at the Tribhuban University ground in Kathmandu, reports APB.

Malaysia beat Hong Kong in the second semi-final yesterday.

Bangladesh reached the final outplaying United Arab Emirates by six wickets in the first semi-final.

Earlier Bangladesh beat the Malaysian side in a group match by a massive 141-run margin. Bangladesh team also became champions in the Group A.

Rape of aya Offices of DC, SP gheraoed at Pabna

From Our Correspondent

PABNA, Oct 11: Offices of the Deputy Commissioner, Police Superintendent and Civil Surgeon here were gheraoed today by the Class III and Class IV employees of Pabna town hospitals demanding immediate arrest of the culprits who raped a senior 'aya' of Pabna General Hospital on October 4.

The employees also submitted copies of a memorandum to the top 3 officials threatening indefinite strike unless the culprits rounded up before October 18.

Earlier, wearing black-badges, carrying banners and festoons and shouting slogans, the hospital employees brought out a big procession. It paraded main thoroughfares of the town demanding immediate arrest and punishment to the rapists.

Ctg City Corpn expanded

By Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Oct 11: Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) has expanded its periphery from 60 square miles to 120 square miles with nine new wards, said an official announcement today, reports UNB.

According to the announcement, 18 unions of five thanas — Boalkhali, Patia, Anwara, Sitakunda and Hathazari — will be included in the CCC's new periphery raising the total number of its wards to 51 from 42.

Road barricade at Khagrachhari begins

From Our Correspondent

KHAGRACHHARI, Oct 11: The first day of a 48-hour road barricade programme called by the BNP-backed Sarbadolio Oikya Parishad passed off peacefully today.

All kinds of vehicular movement from Khagrachhari Sadar to eight thanas of the district came to halt.

Witnesses said an oil tanker was damaged by pickets at Matrangala during the programme today.

The Oikya Parishad called for the road blockade demanding release of 18 BNP leaders. They were arrested in connection with the October 6 clash between Awami League and BNP supporters at Ramgarh.

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Post-flood scenario in Sirajganj
Delay in releasing aid, farm loan causes concern

By Morshed Ali Khan, back from Sirajganj



Delay in disbursement of emergency aid and farm loans has caused concern among public representatives, farmers and government officials in the district in the wake of the devastating flood.

They said the flood caused an estimated Tk 74 crore loss in agriculture sector alone in the district. If the authorities did not act fast to help the affected people, especially farmers, the consequences might be serious.

Many people in the villages along the road from Sirajganj Sadar to Nathuapara union in Kazipur thana alleged that they were facing long delays in obtaining agricultural loans. The authorities had not even prepared the list of recipients of VGF (Vulnerable Group Feeding) cards.

Vast areas of Sirajganj district were submerged as the flood protection embankment gave in to the surging Jamuna river. Two villages — Fulzorin and Panagari — under Nathuapara union were devoured by the Jamuna. The affected people have taken shelter elsewhere in the union.

The 35-km road from Sirajganj to Kazipur has remained closed to traffic since the embankment was washed away about three months ago. Mohammad Golam Kibria, executive

A farmer at Nathuapara plucking paddy seedlings for transplantation.

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ক্যানোলা হারভেস্ট

সীমিত সময়ের জন্য বিশেষ আকর্ষণ

৩৬৬৬ ক্যানোলা হারভেস্ট ৪ লিটার ক্যানের জন্য

একটি ৪ লিটার ক্যানের সাথে বিনামূল্যে ১০০ গ্রাম এইচ আর সি চা বুচরা ও পাইকারী বিক্রেতাদের জন্য ৪

- প্রতি ১০ ক্যান ৪ লিটার ক্যানের সাথে বিনামূল্যে ১টি ৩ ব্যান্ড রেডিও।
- প্রতি ৫০ ক্যান ৪ লিটার ক্যানের সাথে বিনামূল্যে ১টি চাবপাখা ক্যান।
- প্রতি ১০০ ক্যান ৪ লিটার ক্যানের সাথে বিনামূল্যে ১টি ২০" সাদা-কালো টেলিভিশন।
- প্রতি ২০০ ক্যান ৪ লিটার ক্যানের সাথে বিনামূল্যে ১টি ১৪" ব্লক টেলিভিশন।
- প্রতি ৩০০ ক্যান ৪ লিটার ক্যানের সাথে বিনামূল্যে ১টি ওয়াশিং মেশিন।
- প্রতি ৪০০ ক্যান ৪ লিটার ক্যানের সাথে বিনামূল্যে ১টি ট্রিক্স।
- প্রতি ৭০০ ক্যান ৪ লিটার ক্যানের সাথে বিনামূল্যে ১টি ১০০ সি সি মোটর সাইকেল।

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