

### Growth rate increasing by 14 pc per year, says Tofael

CHITTAGONG, Nov 20: Commerce and Industries Minister Tofael Ahmed said here today that the growth rate of the country is increasing 13 to 14 per cent per year due to the government's efficiency and pragmatic industrial policy, reports BSS.

"Since taking office the present government attached the highest importance to attracting investment and increasing volume of export for turning the economy of the country into a vibrant and dynamic one," the minister said.

Ahmed was inaugurating the fortnight-long Chittagong International Trade Fair-98 (CIT) (Technology Exposition) — at the railway polo ground here this afternoon.

The minister said due to the government's incentive packages, for foreign investors, the Board of Investment registered 278 industrial units worth

around Taka 4.4 billion US dollars during the last financial year.

The investment policy of the government was acclaimed widely which helped pour Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) on a large scale in the country, the minister said adding that during the first quarter of the current fiscal the Board of Investment registered a number of projects with foreign investment of 421 million US dollars.

The inaugural function of the trade fair, organised by Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry, was presided over by chamber president Kamaluddin Ahmed.

Chittagong Mayor A B M Mohiuddin Chowdhury, Resident Representative of 20th Engineer Azizur Rahman, Senior Vice-President of Chittagong Chamber Saifuzzaman Chowdhury (Javed), among others, addressed the function.

### Badruddoza demands mid-term polls

Deputy Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Prof A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury yesterday asked the government to step down to pave the way for a mid-term election, reports UNB.

"This government is a danger to the country as well as democracy," the BNP leader told a public gathering at Karmagan Girls' School premises in Munshiganj in the afternoon.

Demanding mid-term polls, Chowdhury advised the ruling party not to inflict further damage on the country by clinging to power.

"Politicisation and nepotism are the characteristics of Awami League," he said.

He said the government has forced the opposition to launch a movement by increasing prices of essentials and signing two agreements against independence and interest of the country.

Criticising a statement that there is no issue of movement, Chowdhury said the intellectuals who had once raised their voice on Yasmin issue of Dinajpur are now silent on the rape incidents in Jahangirnagar University.

BNP leaders Ehsanul Kabir, Kazi Azizul Huq, Ali Akkas Nadim and Osman Gani Shahjahan also addressed the gathering.



MA Khaleq Mirza Tareq

### BPRC executives

M A Khaleque Bhuiyan, Director (PR and Pub), T&T Board, and Md Tareq Qader Mirza, Assistant Director (Pub-cum-Info), BUET, have been elected as president and general secretary of the 28-member executive committee (1998-1999) of Bangladesh Public Relations Association (BPRC) respectively, says a press release.

The election was held at the Ninth Biennial General Meeting of the association in the city on Thursday.

The other office-bearers are: Vice-presidents — A A Zafar Iqbal, Mustafizur Rahman and Kazi Gofran Ahmed; joint secretaries — Hashima Gulrukh and K M Enamul Kabir; treasurer — A M Enayet Ullah; organising secretary — Giasuddin Ahmed Chowdhury; publicity and publication secretary — M A Khaleque; cultural and sports secretary — Goutam Arindam Barua; international secretary — Rashida Mohiuddin; education and research secretary — Jashim Mallik; and office secretary — Faruque Ahmed.

### PP Altaf Hossain dead

Mohamad Altaf Hossain, Public Prosecutor of Dhaka died of cancer at his Kazi Abdur Rouf Lane residence yesterday morning. He was 60, reports BSS.

Altaf Hossain, also a former president of Dhaka Bar Association, was suffering from lung cancer for the last few years, family sources said.

He left behind his wife, one son, three daughters, friends and a host of relatives to mourn his death.

The first Namaz-e-Janaza of the late PP was held at the Rokonpur Jame Mosque after Aar prayers yesterday. Another janaza will be held at the Dhaka Court premises at 10 am tomorrow. His body will be preserved at Birdem Hospital.

### PM condoles death

Another report adds: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has expressed her deep shock and sorrow at the death of eminent lawyer, politician and Public Prosecutor of Dhaka Court Advocate Altaf Hossain.

### Woman beggar stabbed to death

By Staff Correspondent

A 45-year-old woman was stabbed to death reportedly by her husband at Golakata Bridge at Demra in the city yesterday morning.

The victim, Sajeda Begum, a beggar, lived in a slum near Golakata Bridge with her husband Sikanadar, also a beggar.

According to police, Sikanadar stabbed his wife in the chest with a knife after an altercation. Sajeda died on the spot.

### Dhaka condemns Israeli policy of settlement

Bangladesh has strongly condemned the Israeli policy of settlement, confiscation of Arab land and violation of human rights in the occupied territories, reports BSS.

Making a statement on the current session of UN General Assembly on Wednesday, Anwarul Karim Chowdhury, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh at the UN mission, expressed Bangladesh's total solidarity with the Palestinian and Arab brothers.

He called upon the international community to continue its efforts until the termination of Israeli occupation from Palestinian and Arab lands, according to a message received in the city yesterday.

Chowdhury expressed the government's grave concern over the Israeli practices of violation of UN resolution and international law which, he feared, would create a situation that might be exploded in any movement causing loss of many lives.

He also called upon Israeli authorities to honour its own commitment to the peace process and demanded withdrawal from the occupied territories without delay.

### Kabi Jashimuddin Hall Debating Club formed

By DU Correspondent

An eleven member committee of Kabi Jashimuddin Hall Debating Club (KJHDC) has been formed yesterday with Abdul Wahab Setu and T M Mosharrar Hossain Babu as President and General Secretary respectively.

Others members of the committee are: Muhammad Nazrul Islam, Kazi Nasiruddin, Taimur Hossain Joy, Shaful Islam Panna (Vice President), Zahangir Hossain Mamun (Joint Secretary General), Syed Abul Kalam Azad (Organising Secretary), Faruq Sikder (Publicity Secretary), Kamrul Islam (Finance Secretary), Anwar Hossain (Office Secretary), Humayun Kabir, Pallab (Printing Secretary), Tayeb Hossain Sarker, Sohag (Information and Research Secretary), Rezaul Karim Sumon (Programme Secretary) and Abu Bakkar Siddiq, Habib Ibrahim, Khalilullah Maruf, Alam Hossain, Mahbubur Rahman, Abdul Mazed Mia (Member).

### Mount Elizabeth Hospital may extend its services in Bangladesh

SINGAPORE, Nov 20: Mount Elizabeth Hospital is expected to extend its services in Bangladesh under joint collaboration, reports BSS.

Mount Elizabeth Hospital (MEH), an institution of Parkway Group Healthcare Pvt Ltd, has its negotiation in final stage, with Holy Family Red-Crescent Hospital to extend its services in Bangladesh.

This was said by Tan-Hoong Chu Eng, General Manager, corporate marketing and physical relations of the group while talking to a group of transnational businessmen, who arrived here to cover the 12th annual seminar of the hospital.

Tan, while elaborating their initiative in Bangladesh, said that considering the increasing number of patients coming here for treatment, MEH has decided to explore the potentialities to expand treatment facilities in Dhaka.

She informed that against 100 patients in 1997, a huge number of over 600 patients from Bangladesh took treatment at MEH this year.

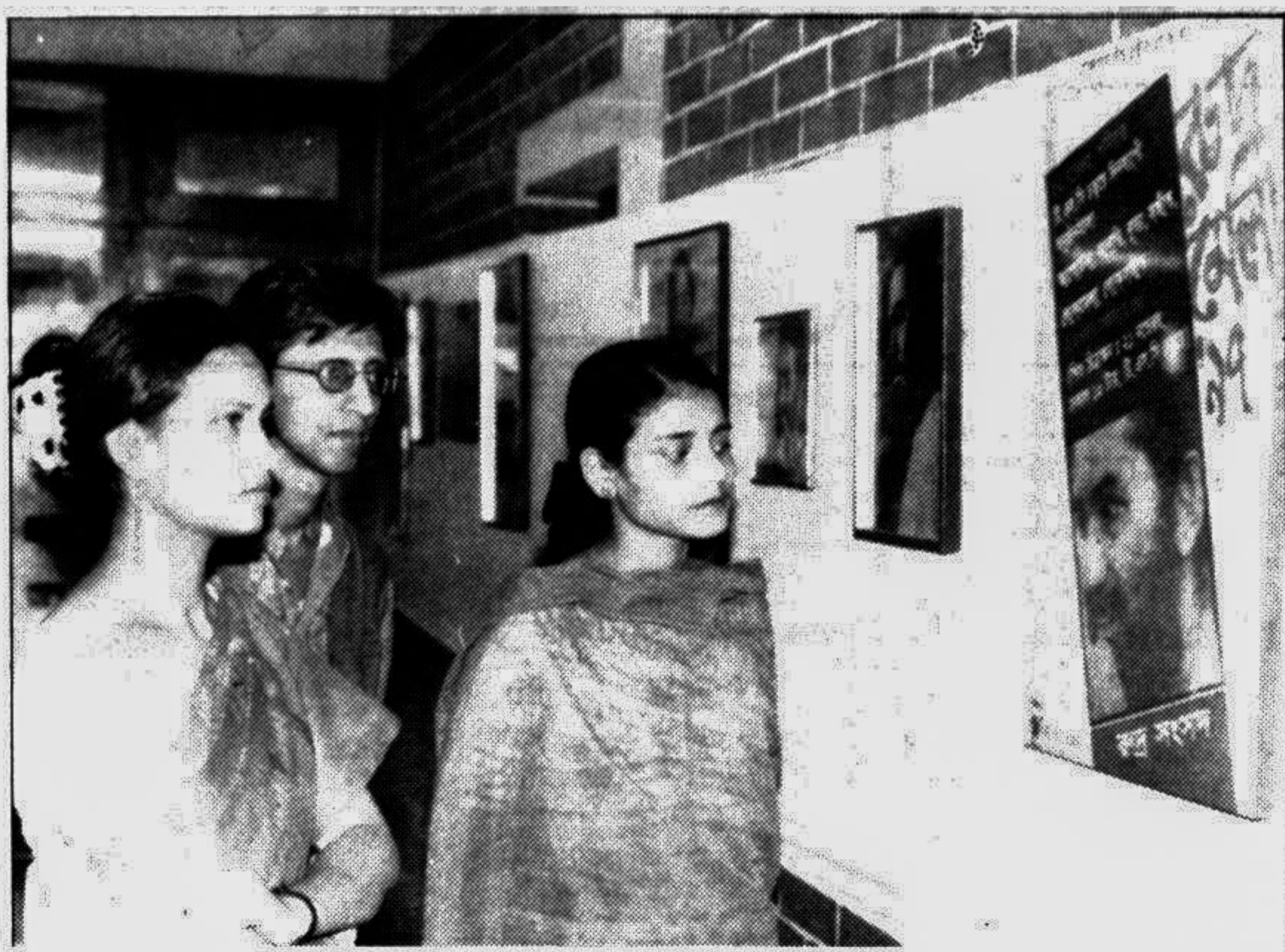
Tan said follow-up is very much important and essential for surgery patients. This is why their group is keen to start joint-venture endeavours in Bangladesh.

### Russian Revolution anniversary observed

By Staff Correspondent

The 81st anniversary of the Russian Revolution was observed from November 6 to 12 by Sramajeebe Mukti Andolan at its party office, says a press release.

Members of the politburo and convenor of Jatiya Sramik Sobha Abdur Rahman Khan presided over the programme. Labour leaders Abul Kasem Ratan and others also spoke during the session.



A photography exhibition on Rudra Mohammad Shahidullah was held at the TSC auditorium of Dhaka University yesterday. The exhibition was part of 'Rudra Mela' organised marking the poet's 42nd birth anniversary. — Star photo

### 50 years of fine art Festival begins Nov 26

By Staff Correspondent

Three-week-long programmes marking 50 years of fine art movement in Bangladesh begin in the city on November 26. Fifty years ago in 1948, Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin pioneered setting up of the Institute of Fine Art in Dhaka.

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy has organised the programme in collaboration with the National Museum. The programmes include 13th National Art Exhibition, a special exhibition of art by selected artists of the fifties, day-long seminar and a get-together of artists. Ten celebrated artists of the country will also be awarded on the occasion.

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad will inaugurate the festival at the auditorium of National Museum at 11 am. Obaidul Quader, Minister of State for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs, will be the special guest.

The 13th National Art Exhibition will also be opened the same day. It will be held at the Shilpakala Academy gallery and the National Museum gallery simultaneously. And the special exhibition of art will be held in the main gallery of National Museum. Over 100 works of 35 artists including

Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin, Qamrul Hasan, SM Sultan, Shafiuddin Ahmed will be put on display.

Ten celebrated artists who will be awarded Golden Jubilee award include Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin (posthumous), Anwarul Haq (posthumous), Qamrul Hasan (posthumous), Shafiuddin Ahmed, SM Sultan (posthumous), Shafuliq Amin, Mohammad Kibria, Aminul Islam, Bijon Chawdhury and Rashid Chawdhury (posthumous).

A day-long seminar divided in two sessions will be held in the children's auditorium of National Museum. The reminiscence session will be held everyday from November 29 to December 12 at the gallery building of the Shilpakala Academy. Among others, National Professor Kabir Chawdhury, Dr Borhanuddin Khan Jahangir, Quayum Chowdhury, Murtaza Bashir, poet Shamsun Rahman, Syed Shamsul Haq, Waheedul Haq will take part in it.

### 25 hurt as bus tumbles in Bandarban

BANDARBAN, Nov 20: At least 25 members of a picnic party sustained injuries when a bus carrying them tumbled downhill and ended up in a ditch near the town this evening, reports APB.

Of the injured, Pushparani, 25, Sujata, 30, Shamsunnahar, 20, Hena Begum, 25, Sharif Islam, 35, Dipak, 30, Rafiqul, 30, Shahidul, 25, and Bipul, 25, were admitted to the local hospital. The rest were rushed to Chittagong in critical condition.

Police said 180 employees of Youngone Garments in Chittagong Export Processing Zone (CEPZ) came here by three buses for a picnic in the morning.

When returning at about 6 pm, one of the buses swerved and fell in a ditch after the driver lost control over the steering.

The driver fled the scene immediately after the accident. Police seized the bus.

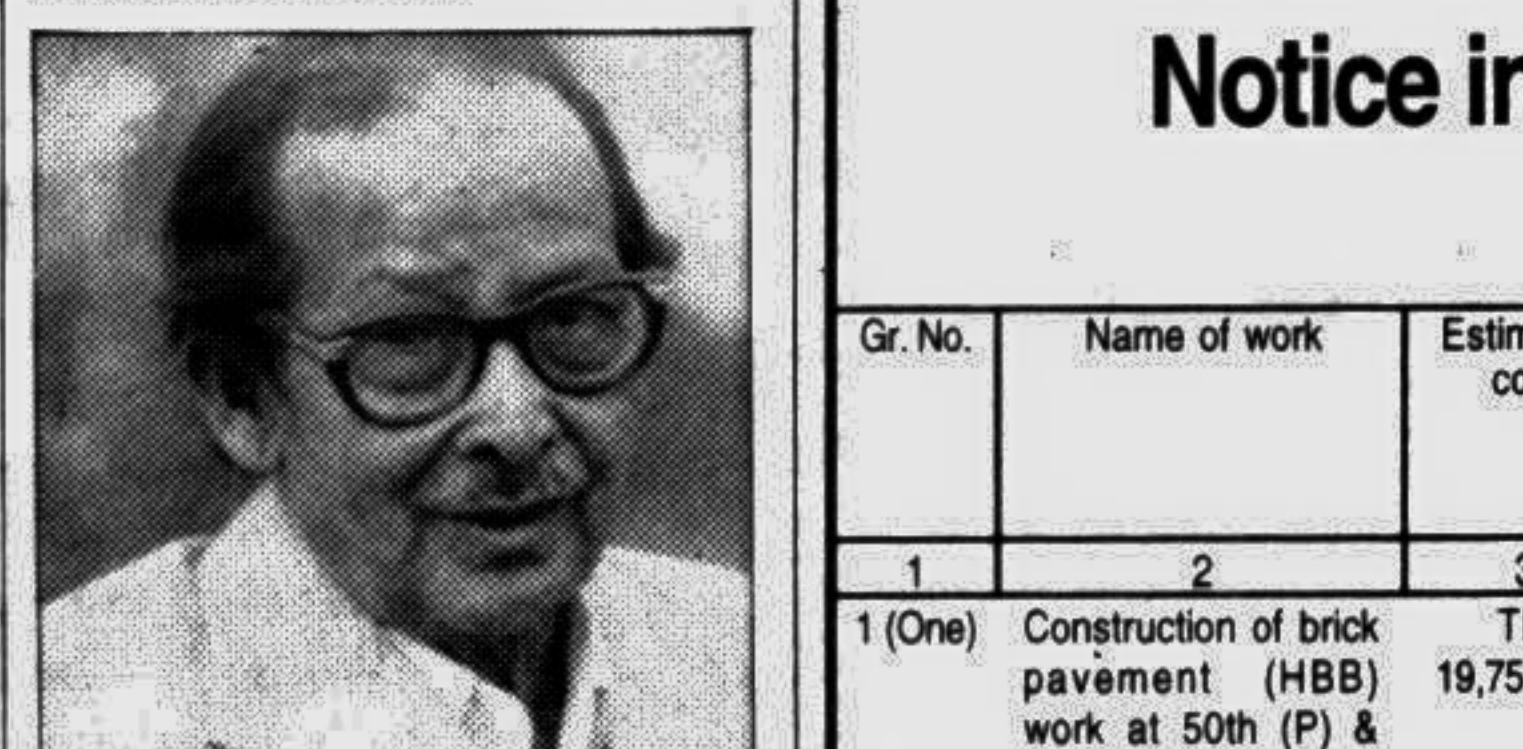
### Shaheda Obaed demands transfer of her husband to hospital cell

By Staff Correspondent

Prof Shaheda Obaed, wife of jailed BNP leader KM Obaidur Rahman, yesterday demanded transfer of her husband to a hospital prison cell as 'his health is deteriorating,' said a press release yesterday.

Obaidur Rahman suffers from heart disease and diabetes and his blood sugar has shot up beyond control since his imprisonment, the release said quoting Shaheda Obaed, who met her husband at the Dhaka Central Jail yesterday.

Shaheda added that he has to live in a very unhygienic condition in a cell without a toilet or bathroom.



### Obituary

Kalimullah Bhuiyan, former Managing Director of FDC, died yesterday morning, says a press release.

He was the father of TV and theatre actress Lucky Inam. His namaz-e-janaza will be held at his village home Munshirhat in Feni district after Aar prayers today.

### Indian naval chief due tomorrow

NEW DELHI, Nov 20: India's Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Vishnu Bhagwat will visit Bangladesh from November 22 to 26, according to official sources here today, reports BSS.

This will be the first ever visit by an Indian navy chief to Dhaka since the emergence of Bangladesh in 1971.

The visit, according to an Indian newspaper, is significant in view of the Indian Navy's proposal to the government for the creation of a far-eastern naval command, based in the island territories of Andamans and Nicobar.

During the forthcoming visit to Bangladesh Admiral Bhagwat is expected to discuss issues of mutual interest and explore areas of cooperation between the two neighbours.

Some of the key issues include anti-narcotics operations, hydro surveys, search and rescue missions during natural calamities in the Bay of Bengal, ship-building, ship repairs and warship design.

### Workshop on non-motorised transport

A day-long workshop on "Plan programme to improve non-motorised transport" was held at the LGED seminar room on Thursday, says a press release.

It was jointly organised by LGED, World Bank and Swiss Development Cooperation.

Mohiuzzaman Quazi of World Bank put forward some suggestions toward improvement of designs of rickshaw, including safety belt in rickshaw.

Rahmatullah Habib of the Swiss Development Cooperation said that non-motorised transport plays a very important role in the rural transport system.

Dr Mohammad Ahsan, team leader, NMT Project, ETDA, said that in the context of Bangladesh, there was a distinct and definite need for the improvement of the rickshaw for at least three different reasons. The first reason is socio-economic. The second reason is for the rickshawpuller, the pulling effort must be reduced significantly. And the third for the passengers. The ride should be softer, safer and comfortable.



A workshop on non-motorised transport was held at the LGED seminar room on Thursday, organised by World Bank, SDC and LGED. From left are Mohiuzzaman Quazi of World Bank, QI Siddique, Chief Engineer, LGED and Rahmatullah Habib of SDC.

### 'Rudra Mela' held at DU

By DU Correspondent

A day-long 'Rudra Mela' was held yesterday to mark the 42nd birth anniversary of poet Rudra Muhammad Shahidullah at the Teachers Students Centre (TSC) premises of the Dhaka University.

Organised by 'Rudra Sangsad', the annual festival was inaugurated by poet Shamur Rahman, State Minister for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs. Obaidul Kader attended as chief guest.

The festival included poem recitation, baul songs and a folk fair, participated by various cultural groups and individuals.

A children's art competition was also held at the Institute of Fine Arts, DU, and a photo-exhibition on the life of Rudra at the TSC.

Rudra was leading poet who died of cardiac arrest in the early nineties.

### 100 pry school cum cyclone centres to be built

The Primary Education Directorate will construct 100 primary school-cum-cyclone shelters in the coastal belt at a cost of Tk 70 crore during the period of 1999-2000, says a press release.

For this purpose, the German government has agreed to grant an amount of 27.15 million Deutsch mark.

The construction work will be implemented by LGED. LGED Chief Engineer, Quamrul Islam Siddique and Director General of the Directorate of Primary Education Dr. Fazlul Karim Chowdhury signed a memorandum of understanding in this regard on November 18 in the city.

### Passing out parade of Navy held

KHULNA, Nov 20: The passing out parade of a batch of recruits of the Bangladesh Navy was held at BNS Titumir parade ground here yesterday, reports BSS.

Chief of the Naval Staff Rear Admiral Mohammad Nurul Islam reviewed the smartly turned-out parade and took salute at the impressive march past. He also distributed trophies and awards among the outstanding recruits.

Speaking on the occasion, the Navy chief directed the newly inducted sailors to remain vigilant against smuggling in the coastal areas and urged them to protect the mineral and marine resources scattered over the vast sea area of Bangladesh.

M A Hussain was adjudged the best all round recruit in SSC group and was awarded the cup of the Chief of Naval Staff while M R Islam was adjudged the best all round recruit in non-SSC group and was awarded the Titumir Cup.

### Zillur tells BNP's politics aimed at foiling AL poll pledges

CHITTAGONG, Nov 20: LGRD Minister Zillur Rahman said the motto of BNP politics at present is to foil his party's election pledges and post-flood rehabilitation programmes in order to digest a dollop of Tk 60 crore coming from abroad, reports UNB.

"The Leader of the Opposition is showing fascist attitude by creating an anarchic situation to oust an elected government and destroy the democratic order through non-stop hartal," he told a public meeting at Raajan Thana Parishad ground today.

"She continued with hartal in the name of people. But people don't want hartal. They don't want to see ouster of the present government," said Zillur, the Deputy leader in the House and general secretary of the ruling Awami League.

He clobbered the BNP chief, Begum Zia, for making an abortive bid to build movement by orchestrating "Goeblesian propaganda".

Zillur also alleged that BNP in collaboration with anti-liberation forces indulged in a disastrous game of unleashing unrest in the country with an ulterior motive to strangle the democracy.

Continuing his abrasive assault on the main opposition, which is leading an anti-government agitation of the seven-party alliance, the minister said BNP couldn't concede its defeat in the 1996 general election in any way and for this they continued propaganda of repression and oppression on opposition activists and infringement of democratic rights.

"Prime Minister's announcement of Awami League calling no hartal in future has been massively welcomed by people of the country as well as

### Four held with phensidyl in Mymensingh

MYMENSINGH, Nov 20: Police arrested four youths along with 80 bottles of phensidyl from near Krishnapur Adarsha Colony in the town Thursday night, reports UNB.

Acting on a tip-off, police caught the four — Abu Sayeed Khan, Mokhes, Haroon and Nital Sarkar — red handed while they were selling the contraband item at 12 mid night.

The accused were produced before the court and sent to jail yesterday.

**বাংলাদেশ বেসামরিক বিমান চলাচল কর্তৃপক্ষ**  
সদর দপ্তর, কুর্মিটোলা, ঢাকা।  
**দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি সংশোধনী**  
ওসমানী বিমান বন্দর, সিলেট সম্প্রসারণ ও উন্নয়ন প্রকল্পে ৪ ফুট কাজের দরপত্র "দি ডেইলী স্টার" দি বাংলাদেশ অবজারভার" ও "দৈনিক বাংলার বাণী" পত্রিকায় যথাক্রমে ৮-১১-৯৮ খৃঃ ও ৯-১১-৯৮ খৃঃ তারিখে প্রকাশিত হয়। উক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তির ক্রমিক নং ৩ এর 'ঘ' ধর্মের জন্য "একক কার্যাদেশে কমপক্ষে ১০০.০০ লক্ষ টাকার পরিবর্তে ১০০.০০ লক্ষ টাকা এবং কাজের সময় ৪ মাসের পরিবর্তে ৩ মাস পড়িতে হইবে।" দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তির অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী অপরিবর্তিত থাকিবে।  
আসাদুজ্জামান চৌধুরী  
প্রধান প্রকৌশলী  
DFP-24437-18/11  
G-2599  
বেসামরিক বিমান চলাচল কর্তৃপক্ষ।

**Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation**  
"Krishi Bhaban"  
49-51, Dilkusha Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000  
(Construction Division)  
**Tender Notice**

- Tender No : 2/98-99
- Place of selling of tender : a) Cashier, Krishi Bhaban (3rd floor), 49-51, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka.  
b) Office of the Executive Engineer (C), Comilla Region, BADC Complex, Jangalia, Comilla.
- Place of dropping of tender : a) Office of the Chief Engineer (C), BADC, Dhaka.  
b) Office of the Executive Engineer (C), Comilla Region, BADC Complex, Jangalia, Comilla.
- Last date of purchasing tender document : 30.11.98 (during office hours).
- Date & time of dropping tender : 01.12.98 (up to 12.00 noon).
- Date & time of opening tender : 01.12.98 at 12-15 PM.
- Eligibility of contractor : 1st class enlisted electrical contractor of BADC, govt./semi-govt./autonomous organisations.

Sl No	Name & place of work	Estimated amount (in Tk)	Earnest money (in Tk)	Cost of tender document (non-refundable)	Time for completion
1.	Installation of 50 KVA transformer and construction of HT/LT line at FSC, Kulaura	4,48,813/93	11,300/-	200/-	30 days from the date of work order.
9.	Tender will have to enclose money receipt (against purchase of schedule), attested photocopy of their valid contractor and supervisory licence, enlistment in other organisation				
10.	Earnest money in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh in favour of "BADC, Dhaka" shall have to be submitted along with the tender, failing which the tender will be treated as informal.				
11.	Contractors quoting rate more than 10% above or below the estimated cost shall have to submit item-wise analysis of rates. If the analysis of rates do not tally with the market rates or found incomplete or there be any mistake the tender may be treated as informal.				
12.	Any other information, if necessary, may be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours on all working days.				
13.	Contractors will have to take written permission from the undersigned for purchase of schedule showing original valid trade licence, valid ABC contractor and supervisory licence, previous experience certificate from concerned Executive Engineer, enlistment documents.				
14.	The corporation reserves the right to accept or to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reasons whatsoever.				

ADC-581  
DFP-28205-17/11  
G-2596  
Chief Engineer (Constn)  
BADC, Dhaka.

**Government of Bangladesh**  
**Office of the Executive Engineer (RHD)**  
Road Division, Barguna  
**Notice inviting tender with sealed cover on Bangladesh Form No 2911**  
No.07/1998-99

Gr. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Eligibility of contractor of RHD	Time allowed from the date of work order	Last date & time of dropping/receiving of tenders (with sealed cover)	Date & time of filling up of tenders (with sealed cover)	Date & time of opening the tenders	Date & time of lot (if applicable)	Name of offices from where the tender documents will be available	The officers who will receive the tenders (with sealed cover)
1 (One)	Construction of brick pavement (HBB) work at 50th (P) & 51th KM of Patuakhali-Amtali-Barguna-Kakchira road under Barguna Road Division during the year 1998-99	Tk. 19,75,155/-	Tk. 39,503/-	'A' to 'D' (general category)	45 days	30-11-98/16-8-1405 up to 12:30 PM	30-11-98/16-8-1405 at 12:45 PM	23-8-1405 at 11:00 AM	9-12-98/25-8-1405 at 12:00 PM	Commissioner, Barisal Division, Barisal/ Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division Barisal/Bhola/Pirojpur/Patuakhali/Planting Division, Dhaka, the undersigned & Sub-Divisional Engineer, RHD, Road Sub-Division, Barguna during office hours on all working days up to 28-11-1998.	1. Additional Chief Engineer, RHD, Barisal Zone, Barisal. 2. Commissioner, Barisal Division, Barisal. 3. Superintending Engineer, RHD, Barisal Circle, Barisal. 4. Superintending Engineer, RHD, Procurement & Monitoring Circle, Sarak Bhaban, Roma, Dhaka. 5. Executive Engineer, RHD, Barisal/Patuakhali & the undersigned.

DFP-24116-16/11  
G-2601  
Md Golam Rahman  
Executive Engineer (RHD)  
Road Division, Barguna.