

Anoka Faruqee's 1st solo painting show begins

Star Report
A four-day exhibition of paintings by Anoka Faruqee began at Gallery 21 yesterday.

Anoka Faruqee may have been an unknown talent in the art circles of Dhaka, but her first solo in Bangladesh titled 'Interiors' is likely to change all that.

Her year-long residence at Shantiniketan in 1995 exposed her to a world of Moghul and Persian miniature art, as well as the school of Abanindranath Tagore.

Through the later part of the 90s she has tried to develop her signature style, combining and balancing the concepts of the East and the West.

State Minister for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Quader yesterday announced that the National Museum would preserve the relics and articles used by late litterateur Shawkat Osman while the Public Library auditorium would be renamed after him, reports BSS.

We have also decided to publish his works from the Bangla Academy, he said at a memorial meeting organised at the National Museum auditorium to mark his 82 birth anniversary.

One hacked to death in Khulna
KHULNA, Jan 2: A young man was hacked to death in the city's Fulbari Gate area this (Saturday) evening as a sequel of past enmity, reports UNB.

Construction of Bhairab-Ashuganj Bridge to start soon: Zillur

KISHOREGANJ, Jan 2: The government will soon start construction of Bhairab-Ashuganj bridge on the river Meghna and the World Bank financed Bhairab Town Protection Embankment as part of the fulfilment of the hopes and aspirations of the people, reports BSS.

This was disclosed by the Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Zillur Rahman while addressing two public meetings here today.

Zillur Rahman said the government was now implementing an epoch-making programme all over the country to bring about a positive change in the national life.

He mentioned construction of the Bangabandhu Bridge, signing of the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) Peace Treaty, the Ganges Water sharing agreement, launching allowance for the old people, establishment of

the employment bank and successfully facing the century's worst flood which were bearing testimony of the present government's strong commitment to serve the people.

Rahman said the Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and BNP chief Begum Khaleda Zia had now become jealous about the historic successes of the present government in a short span of time.

Zillur Rahman said the government established by the support and confidence of the people could never be toppled by banking on the shoulders of autocrat and razzaks.

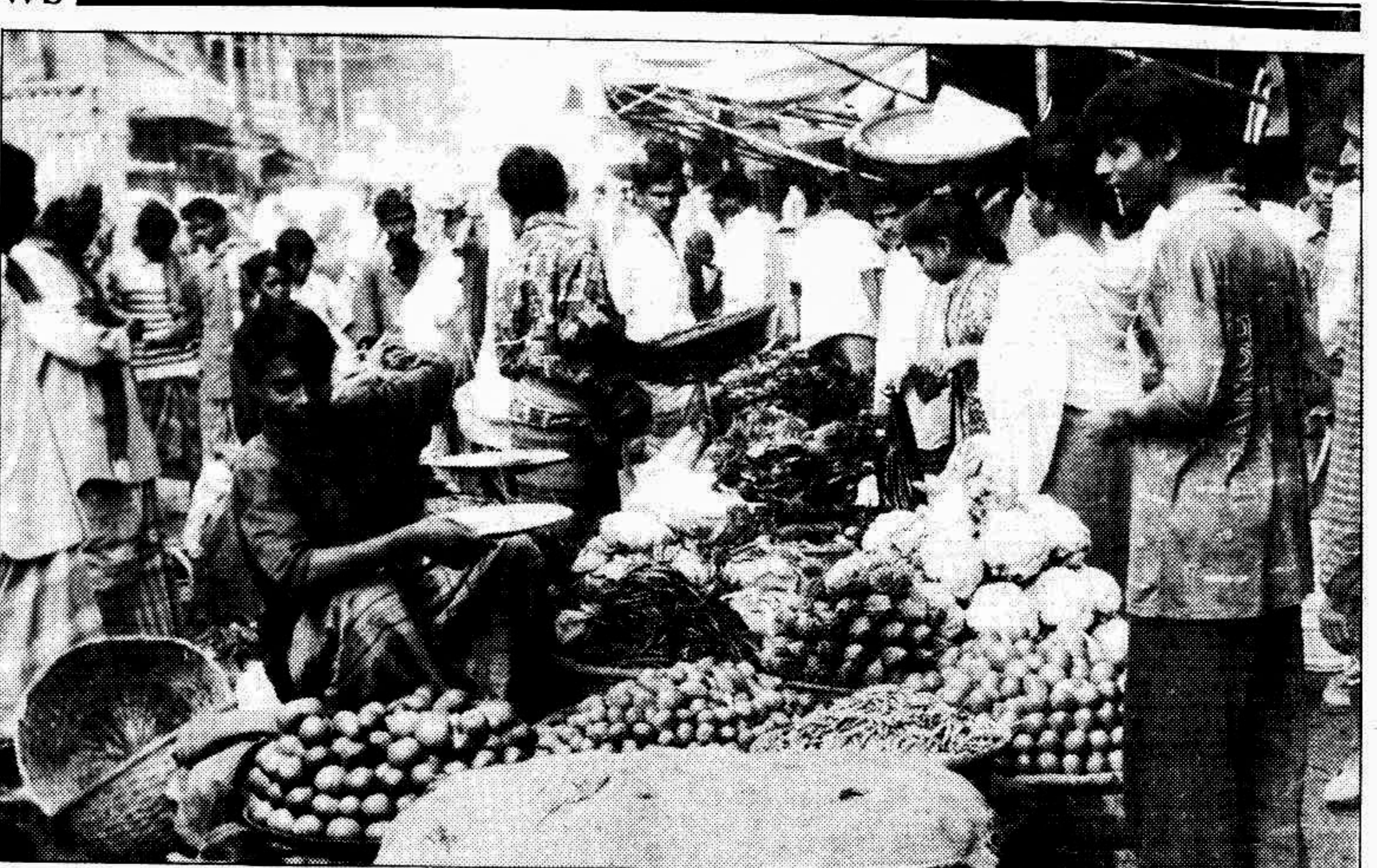
The LGRD Minister said the people as a whole were now united against any kind of negative politics and the Leader of the opposition would get the result of her own brand of politics

in future elections. 'The people will give due answer to the intransigent attitude of the leader of the oppositions and also her alliance with the anti-liberation forces and the autocrat in the next parliament elections,' he said.

The amount of positive work done by the present government for the welfare of the people was never even thought of during the regimes of Begum Khaleda Zia and General Ershad, he told the meetings held at Khalapara ground and Tinpaty Bazar here.

The minister directed the Water Development Board (WDB) to take up emergency work to protect already threatened national power grid near the Bhairab Bazar and also the launch ghat of the Meghna river nearby.

WDB chairman M Shamsul Huq was also present at the meeting.



Part of Kaptan Bazar Rd has been occupied by small traders to set up a thriving Kutchabazar. This has proves a big problem to users of the road everyday. -Star photo



Perfect Textiles opened a new sales centre and showroom of its products at Mamta Plaza in Dhanmondi yesterday. The textiles displayed its special Eid collection of sarees at the centre. -Star photo

Work on Tk 6.75cr water project in Kushtia begins

BHERAMARA, Kushtia, Jan 2: The work on a Tk 6.75 crore project for supplying arsenic and iron-free water in Kushtia municipal areas commenced Friday, reports APB.

Funded by Asian Development Bank, the project includes setting up of a 36-km-long pipeline, water-lifting tubewells, iron removal plants, arsenic detector units, construction of overhead tanks and household connections.

The project was inaugurated at a simple ceremony where the municipality chairman, Anwar Ali, was present as the chief guest.

The pourasabha sources said work on the project, being supervised by the Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE), is scheduled to be completed by the year 2000.

Silent procession on RU campus

RAJSHAHI University, Jan 2: A silent procession was brought out on the campus today to protest the foiling a programme of Fine Arts Department by a group of unruly students on December 29, reports APB.

Three separate memoranda were also submitted to the vice-chancellor of the university by different organisations in this connection today.

Sources said four students — Plaban, Raja, Jamil and Kajol — of the department allegedly ransacked the dais erected in connection with the programme organised on the occasion of Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin's birth anniversary on December 29.

The protesters marched to the administrative building and held a meeting before submitting the memoranda.

'Govt has sincerely carried out post flood work'

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad yesterday said that the government has proved its administrative skill through successful implementation of post-flood relief and agricultural rehabilitation programmes, reports BSS.

Addressing the coordination meeting on relief and agricultural rehabilitation of Sylhet, the minister said the success of the government regarding tackling of the floods and post-flood rehabilitation has been acclaimed at home and abroad.

He said the government has properly implemented the rehabilitation programmes proving wrong the remarks of certain opposition party. Samad asked the officials to supervise the remaining tasks sincerely.

Later, the minister attended a condolence meeting in memory of freedom fighter and journalist of Bani Bazar Abdul Matin Chowdhury.

Ctg district coordination body meets

CHITTAGONG, Jan 2: Labour and Employment Minister M A Mannan today asked the officials concerned to immediately complete unfinished work of the under-construction bridges, culverts and roads in all thanas of Chittagong district, reports BSS.

Reviewing the progress of work of the rural infrastructure development project at the district coordination committee meeting at the local Circuit House, the minister pointed out that development of infrastructures in the rural areas would greatly help alleviate rural poverty, strengthen rural economy and create new employment opportunities.

The coordination meeting, presided over by Labour Minister M A Mannan, was attended by the deputy commissioner of Chittagong, police superintendent, additional deputy commissioner (Gen) and Thana Nirbahi Officers.

3 bodies recovered

Police recovered bodies of three people, including two women, from different parts of the city yesterday, reports UNB.

The bodies of Takdir Hossain, 16, Morsheda, 20, and Popy, 16, were sent to DMCH for autopsy.

The body of Takdir, an SSC examinee of Ahmedbagh High School in the city, was found floating on a pond at Maniknagar in Sabujbagh thana.

Family sources said Takdir went to TSC area of Dhaka University on Thursday to collect money from his friend Galib, a resident of Maniknagar, whom he lent the money earlier. Takdir has been missing since then.

Police arrested Galib in this connection.

Morsheda, a worker of Bengal Newtext Cement, died after falling from the fifth floor of the factory at Muggdpara yesterday morning.

Popy, wife of one Rafiq, allegedly committed suicide by hanging herself in her house at Dholaipara area on Friday night.

Orientation course held

An orientation course was held at Shams Hall, National Scout Bhaban for the contingent leaders of Jamboree '99 yesterday, says a press release.

The 6th National Scout Jamboree will be held at Bangladesh National Scout Training Centre, Mouchak, Gazipur from 5-11 February. At least 110 contingent leaders from all over the country attended the course.

Manzoor Ul Karim, Chief National Commissioner, Bangladesh Scouts, Md Abdul Quyyum Thakur, National Commissioner (Admin) & Chairman, 6th National Bangladesh Scout Jamboree organizing committee '99, Habibul Alam Bir Pratik, National Commissioner (Programme), Md. Shah Alam, National Commissioner (Training) and other Deputy National Commissioners & senior scouters exchanged views with the participants.

Elections to teachers representatives in RU Syndicate today

RAJSHAHI, Jan 2: Elections to the teachers' representatives in the Syndicate, Academic Council and Planning and Development Committee, and to the Deans of Rajshahi University are being held tomorrow, reports UNB.

Two panels — BNP and Jamaat backed White and pro-Awami and left-leaning party supported Yellow — are contesting the elections.

A total of 35 candidates — 17 from White and 18 from Yellow — are vying for the 18 posts. White panel did not file any candidate for the Dean post of Law Faculty. Other faculties for which Dean elections will be held are: the Arts, Social Science, Science, Geology and Business Studies faculties.

The White panel candidates are: Deans: Prof M Mokhelesur Rahman, Prof ATM Obaidullah, Prof MA Razzak, Prof Mohammad Zaman and M Amanullah.

Syndicate: Provost M Shamsul Alam Sarkar, Prof M Abdul Quadir Bhuiyan, Associate Prof M Delwar Hossain, Assistant Prof M Selim Reza and Lecturer M Abu Reza Tuhin.

Academic Council: Associate Professors KBM Mahbubur Rahman, M Mahbob Hasan and M Sayedur Rahman and Lecturers M Zahid Hossain, M Shah Inuran and M Shariful Islam.

Planning and Development Committee: Prof M Abdullah Haroon.

Yellow panel candidates are: Deans: Prof Sarwar Jahan, Prof M Mohsin Ali, Prof M Anisur Rahman, Prof ABM Zohirul Huq, Prof M Anisur Rahman and Prof M Habibur Rahman.

Syndicate: Provost M Abdul Halim, Prof Chowdhury Zulfikar Motin, Dr M Habibur Rahman, Assistant Prof M Nazrul Islam and Lecturer M Boraf Ali.

Academic Council: Associated Prof Chittaranjan Misra, Dr M Mujibur Rahman, Dr M Abdur Razzak, Assistant Prof M Golam Ferooque, Assistant Prof M Abdul Bari and Lecturer M Sadequl Arefin.

Planning and Development Committee: Prof Kazi Tobarak Hossain.

Meanwhile, election to the teachers' association announced for tomorrow has been suspended due to unavoidable circumstances.

5 held in city in separate incidents

By Staff Correspondent
Police arrested five people and recovered goods and phenidyl from their possession in separate incidents in the city on Friday.

The arrested were identified as Shajahan, 27, Enamul Huq alias Raju, 18, Liton, 29, Nazrul Islam alias Raju and Elias.

Police in a raid at the Baitala slum and Mohammadpur area and arrested Shajahan, Raju, Liton and Nazrul and seized one Baby Taxi. Three bags were recovered from the vehicle with valuables including camera, watch, ladies bag, money bag, police said.

The muggers had snatched the goods from a vehicle at Asad Gate on the same day, they added.

In another raid at Ganktali area police arrested one Elias and recovered 70 bottles of imported phenidyl from his possession at about 8-35 pm.

Separate cases have been lodged in these connections.

DU teacher dead

Zamrul Hasan Begh, a young lecturer of Bangla Department of Dhaka University, died of heart attack at his residence on Friday night. He was 31, reports UNB.

He left behind his wife, son, mother, and a host of relatives and admirer to mourn his death.

His namaz-e-Janaza was held at the University Central Mosque premises yesterday morning. The body of late Begh was sent to his home at Biyala in Basail thana of Tangail district.

Hasan Begh, a house tutor of Surya Sen Hall, joined the Bangla Department of DU in October, 1998.

Before his joining at the Bangla Department he was an Assistant Professor of Bengali Language Department of the Modern Language Institute.

Obituary

Syeda Sharful Ara Mukaddesa Khatoun, sister of late poet Farokh Ahmed died of old age ailments in the city on Friday. She was 88, says a press release.

She is survived by three sons, two daughters and a host of relatives. Her third son Sultan Ahmed is the news editor of Daily Inqilab. Her elder son Dr Muniruzzaman, professor of Statistics, Dhaka University was killed along with three other family members on March 25, 1971 when Pakistani forces attacked Dhaka University campus.

Syeda Sharful Ara was buried at Mohammadpur graveyard. Her Quikhuva will be held at the residence of her youngest daughter at 43, New Paltan Line, Azimpur on Monday after Asr prayers.

JS body on Ministry of Law holds meet

Members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs yesterday described as unsatisfactory the progress of work of the Law Commission, reports BSS.

At a meeting held with the committee chairman and parliamentary advisor to the prime minister, Suranjit Sen-gupta in the chair, they stressed the need for solving problems of the law commission and increase its manpower to make it more dynamic and efficient to meet the hopes and aspirations of the people.

The members of the committee also decided that the Law Commission reports be discussed in detail in the parliamentary session to help build a dynamic judicial system and ensure speedy trial of cases.

Committee members Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Abdul Matin Khasru, Advocate Md Rahmat Ali, Advocate Sheikh Md Nurul Huq, Barrister Rabia Bhuiyan, Barrister Muhammad Jamir-uddin Sircar, Barrister Md Aminul Huq and Md Khalequzzaman attended the meeting.

Law Secretary Aminullah and concerned officials also attended the meeting.

HERE and THERE

Sylhet Division Dev Council

The 80th birth anniversary of Gen (Retd) M A Rob, Bir Ullah, second in command of the Bangladesh Liberation Army and the then chief of staff, was observed in the city Friday in a befitting manner, reports BSS.

Sylhet Division Development Council (SDDC) held a discussion and a milad mahfil followed by Iftar at its central office to mark the day.

The speakers urged the government to celebrate and observe the birth and death anniversaries of veteran freedom fighter late Rob in the sate honour.

Among others, the acting SDDC president Ershad Uddin Ahmed, one of the sub-sector commanders in the Liberation War, Mahbubur Rob Sadi and journalist Hasan Shahriar took part in the discussion.

Chhatra League

A representative meeting of Bangladesh Chhatra League (Dhaka North) was held at its central office here

Indian sarees worth Tk 1 lakh seized, 3 held

NAOGAON, Jan 2: Police arrested three youths along with huge Indian sarees worth over Tk one lakh from in front of police station in Sadar thana yesterday, reports UNB.

Police raided a microbus at 12 noon and found the contraband. They arrested the three youths travelling in the microbus who were identified as Alamgir and Mujibur of Chhapainabagan and Mohsin of Shariatpur district.



A rally was brought out in the city yesterday marking the third founding anniversary of 'Biggan Chetona.' -Star photo