

## 'Tejoshi Patrish' gets Regimental Colour

SAVAR, Feb 11: A ceremonial parade was held on the occasion of the presentation of Regimental Colour to the 'Tejoshi Patrish', a battalion of the East Bengal Regiment, at the unit parade ground at Savar Cantonment today, reports UNB.

Chief of Army Staff Lt Gen Md Mustafizur Rahman reviewed the parade and took salute at the march past and handed over the Regimental Colour to the 'Tejoshi Patrish' as a mark of its meritorious services to the regiment.

Addressing the officers and troops, the Army Chief said that the 'Tejoshi Patrish' was presented with Regimental Colour for high standard of training, discipline, devotion, efficiency and above all patriotism of its members.

General Mustafiz recalled with gratitude the sacrifices made by the members of the East Bengal Regiment who had joined the Liberation War in response to the call of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in 1971.

He paid glowing tributes to the valiant freedom fighters as well as those pioneers of the Regiment like late Maj M A Ghani, Gen MAG Osmani and Lt Gen Khwaja Wasiuddin.

The Army Chief was received by the Savar Area Commander Maj Gen Sayeed Ahmed, Bir Protik, and the EBRC Commandant Brigadier Rezaqui Haider.

The ceremony was attended, among others, by Begum Ayesha Ghani, Begum Wahida Wasiuddin, Vice Chancellor of Jahangirnagar University Professor Alauddin Ahmed, Principal Staff Officers and other senior military officers.

## A unique architectural display opens

By Staff Correspondent

An exhibition of models, installations and photos by architect Md Rafiq Azam was opened at Drik Gallery in the city yesterday.

Inaugurating the show, Prof Shamsul Wares said that unlike the usual concept, architecture is a vital cultural movement and is not just a product of a money-making profession.

Architect Md Rafiq Azam was present as special guest.

The building projects that are displayed include galleries, hospitals, and private residences. The installation models are 3-D space based and explain architectural constructions.

The paintings are neo-realistic related items connected with architectural projects. These architectural projects are a transformation of paintings and art work (collage) in mixed-media, water colour, pastel, crayon and ink.

Rafiq Azam has designed the Drik Gallery in 1997, for which he won the South Asia Architecture Commendation Award. He also designed the CRP Hospital at Savar, the Gono Shashya Hospital, the Accolade Apartment projects and the Azam residence in old Lalbagh Town.

He was awarded the '77 Nehru Memorial gold medal for painting at the age of 12. He also won the Aga Khan award for architecture.

The exhibition which has already been held at the George Billis Gallery in New York, USA, will remain open till February 25.

## Attempt on poet: 3 remanded again

By Staff Correspondent

Three persons, including two foreign nationals, who were held for their alleged involvement in the attempt to kill poet Shamsur Rahman, were placed on a fresh two-day remand by the CMM's court yesterday.

The three — Sadek Ahmed Sadek, a South African national, Sajeed, a Pakistani and Bakhtiar — were arrested from Dhakkin Khan under Uttara thana in the city on January 25. They were produced before the CMM's court after completion of remand of 13 days in three phases. CID yesterday prayed for further remand of two days for the three.

Besides, bail petitions were moved on behalf of the three. But the court granted two days remand and rejected the bail petitions.

## Death anniversary

The second death anniversary of Advocate AKM Abur Rashid, will be observed Sunday, says a press release.

A *milad mahfil* will be held at his Police Line Road residence at Choumohani and 511/C Khilgaon in the city after Zohr prayers on February 14.

Qurankhwan, feeding of orphans and a special *munajat* will be held at his residence at Choumohani and Dhaka residence.

## Qulkhwani

The qulkhwani of Md Jashim Uddin, former AGM of Pubali Bank Ltd, will be held at 1/510A Modhubaghi, beside Shaheed Selim School after Asr prayers today, says a press release.

The deceased is survived by his wife, three sons and a daughter. His eldest son Jesmul Hasan is a faculty member of Queens University and an Assistant Editor of the Dhaka Courier.

## What's on today....

**Ekushey programme:** A discussion meeting on 'Bolaichand Mukhopadhyaya (Banoful): Life and works will be held as part of Bangla Academy's Ekushey programmes. Key-note speaker: Azhar Islam. Venue: Academy premises. Time: 4 pm.

**Film show:** Alliance Francaise de Dhaka will screen three French movies with English subtitles at its auditorium. The films are — Jean de Florette at 10.30 am, Le Hussard sur le toit at 4 pm and La guerre des boutons at 6 pm.

**Painting exhibition:** A solo painting exhibition by Mahmudul Haque, Director, Institute of Fine Arts of Dhaka University will begin. Eminent artist Safiuddin Ahmed will inaugurate the 11-day exhibition as chief guest. Venue: Shilpagan. The Contemporary Art Gallery, Rd#5, Dhanmondi. Time: 4.30 pm. The exhibition will remain open from 10 am to 8 pm till February 22.

**Pottery exhibition:** A solo pottery exhibition titled 'Crystalline Glaze Studio Pottery' by Prof Sayeed Talukdar will begin. DU VC Prof AK Azad Chowdhury will inaugurate the exhibition. Venue: Gallery Tone, House # 47, Rd#1, Dhanmondi. Time: 5 pm. The exhibition will remain open from 10 am to 8 pm daily.

**Discussion and lecture:** A discussion meeting and the 'First Akhturuzzaman Ilias memorial lecture' session will be held on the occasion of the 56th birth anniversary of late Novelist Akhturuzzaman Ilias. Organiser: Bangladesh Lekhok Shibir Central Council. Venue: Modern Language Institute Seminar room, Dhaka University. Time: 4 pm. Scientist Prof Jamal Nazrul Islam will deliver a lecture on 'Science, culture and civilisation' at the session.

**Film show:** The Bosnian film session will be presented as part of the 6th International Short Film Festival Dhaka. Venue: Indian Cultural Centre auditorium. Time: 3 and 5 pm.

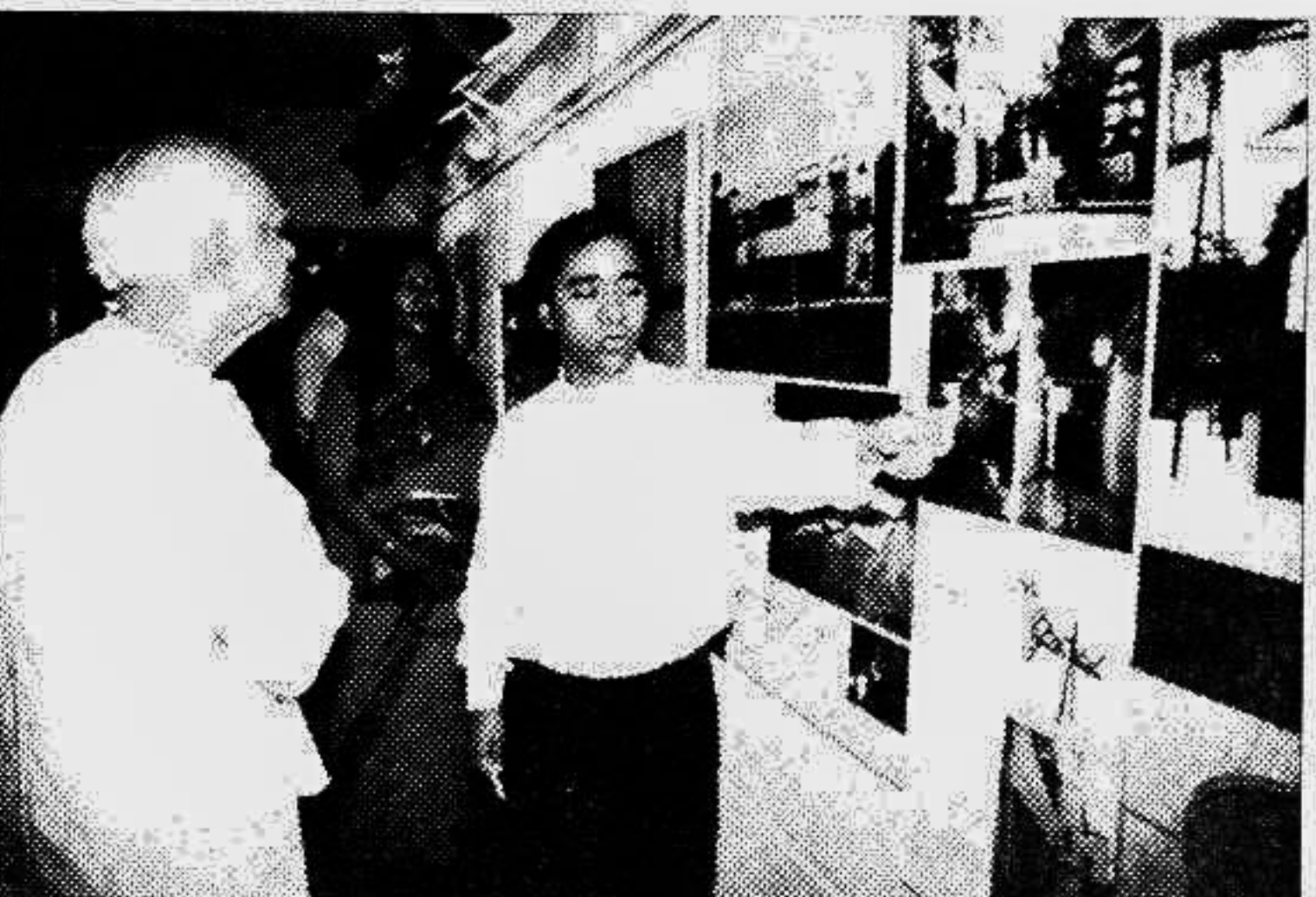
**Conference:** A 2-day long 6th conference of the Bangladesh Communist Party Dhaka City unit will begin. Venue: Party office, 21/1 Purana Paltan. Time: 10 am.

**Publication ceremony:** The publication ceremony of the book 'Restoration of 1972 Constitution' written by KMM Abul Kader, Advocate, Supreme Court will be held. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 4 pm.

**Discussion:** Bangabandhu Jubo Parishad will hold a discussion to mark its fourth founding anniversary. Venue: Teacher Student Centre (TSC) of the Dhaka University. Time: 4 pm. Chief guest: Health and Family Welfare Minister Salahuddin Yusuf.

**Orca get-together:** Orca, the Old Rajshahi Cadets Association, has organised a get-together and a voluntary blood donation programme to mark the 33rd anniversary of Rajshahi Cadet College. Venue: Planning and Development Academy, Nilkhet. Time: 5 pm.

**Club meeting:** The weekly meeting of Rotary Club of Dhaka Central will be held. Venue — Surma, Dhaka Club. Time: 1.30 pm.



Architect Md. Rafiq Azam explains his work at the solo exhibition that began at Drik Gallery in the city yesterday. — Star photo

## Govt forcing Opposition towards one-pt move: Ershad

Jatiya Party chairman H M Ershad yesterday warned that the Opposition parties would launch movement to oust the government if it continues repression reports UNB.

"The ruling party should take lesson from the history. The government is itself forcing the Opposition parties towards one-point movement," Ershad said in a post-hartal statement.

Congratulating the countrymen for making the hartal a total success ignoring police action and terrorism by the ruling party, he said people have expressed no-confidence on the government by observing the 80-hour countrywide hartal, enforced to force the government to accept the four-point demands of the opposition.

He said the government should create congenial atmosphere for holding the municipal elections by accepting the four-point demands.

The former president said in a democratic country, Opposition parties have every right to movement to realise their legal demands.

## 410 held, arms recovered in Cox's Bazar

From Our Correspondent

COX'S BAZAR, Feb 11: Police arrested 410 persons and recovered 11 illegal arms in a week-long special drive in the town.

Of the arrested 8 were absconding convicts wanted in connection with several cases.

The recovered arms include cut rifle, light machine gun (LMG) and huge ammunition.

## Probe report on N'ganj train accident

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, Feb 11: The probe committee held both the minibus and truck drivers responsible for the Sunday's train accident at Gate No 2 on the Bangabandhu road in the town.

Five people were killed and at least 50 others injured in the accident.

The four-member inquiry committee today submitted its report to the Railway Divisional Manager. It recommended three measures to avoid accidents in future.

The measures involve evicting of nearby floating market, erecting speedbreakers on the both sides of the railway gate and not allowing passengers waiting at the level crossing to get on the train.

The committee is headed by divisional transportation officer Anwarul Kabir Khan. Other members are Divisional Engineer SM Liakat Ali, Divisional Mechanical Engineer Anwar Hossain and Divisional Signal and Telecommunication Engineer Mizanur Rahman.

## BCS (special) exam viva voce Feb 28

The viva voce of candidates qualifying in the 19th BCS (Special) Examinations for positions under the Ministry of Livestock will now be on February 28 at 10 am, reports APB.

The test was scheduled to be held on February 11. The date has been changed due to unavoidable circumstances.

Viva voce of other candidates, scheduled to begin from February 14, will remain unchanged.

## Khaleda visits Sajal's house

BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday visited the parents of Sajal who was gunned down during the opposition called hartal, reports UNB.

She consoled the bereaved family and said the nation will remember Sajal as a martyr for his supreme sacrifice for the cause of the people and democracy.

Party leaders Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Dr RA Ghani, Moudud Ahmed, Khandkar Muhibub Uddin Ahmed, Meer Shawkat Ali, Mirza Abbas, Abdullah Al Noman and Ehsanul Kabir accompanied Begum Zia during her visit at the residence of Sajal.

Jatiya Party Chairman H M Ershad accompanied by Kazi Zafar Ahmed and others also visited Sajal's parents at their house.

## DU Satirtha Sammilan AGM Saturday

The annual general meeting (AGM) and picnic of the Dhaka University Satirtha Sammilan (1958-62) will be held at Mamarishpur, Bhaluka, Mymensingh on Saturday. Satirthas interested to participate have been requested to reach Dhaka Officers Club along with members of their family by 8.30 AM.

## ICDDR,B annual scientific confce begins tomorrow

The two-day 20th anniversary celebration and the 8th annual scientific conference (ASCON) of ICDDR,B will begin in the city tomorrow, reports APB.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is expected to inaugurate the meet at the centre's Sasakawa International Training Centre at 9.30 in the morning.

The theme of the ASCON conference this year is "Vaccine Research and Environmental Health." The objective is to share research findings with relevant professionals from government agencies and NGOs, universities and national scientific and research bodies.

Noted experts from both home and abroad will take part in the scientific sessions and present research findings.

## Dipa Haq's chehlum today

Chehlum of noted artist Dipa Haq will be held today at 32, Lake Circus, Bakhtia Villa, Kalabagan residence in the city after Asr prayers, says a press release.

Dipa Haq died of cancer on January 4.



## Prothom Alo journalist dead

By Staff Correspondent

Latif Siddiqui, noted journalist and mufassil editor of the Dainik Prothom Alo died of brain tumour at Bangabandhu Medical University Hospital in the city yesterday, he was 39.

He was operated upon for the second time on Wednesday to remove his brain tumour.

The body of the Siddiqui was sent to his village home at Manikgonj for burial after the *janaza* in front of his Kathal Bagan residence.

He left behind his wife, only daughter and a host of relatives to mourn his death.

Siddiqui started his journalistic career in the Weekly Akota in 1989. He joined the Sangbad in 1990 as an Assistant Editor. Later, he started working in the Bhorer Kajog in 1993. Lastly, he joined the Prothom Alo in November last year.

Siddiqui edited a literary magazine named 'Roddur'.

A condolence meeting will be held on February 18 at 3.00 pm at the National Press Club.



## Action and reaction

Several policemen were wounded at Bijoynagar yesterday when BNP activists lobbed homemade bombs at them (above). Another contingent of riot police, while chasing BNP activists suspected of throwing bombs, searched houses in the Bijoynagar area. One young boy pictured on the right took a very dim view of the search operation. — Star photo

## Six die in hartal

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It following persuasion by other journalists at the spot.

Jubo League leader Kamal Hossain (30) was had injuries from sharp weapons when a clash erupted between pro- and anti-hartal activists near Joydevpur bus stand at around 2 pm.

Two pedestrians — Khokon (15) and Jasimuddin (25) were injured in a series of bomb blasts at Gulistan at around 4pm.

## Three injured on a falling lift

By Staff Correspondent

Three persons who were dismantling an old lift in the Toyota Building in Motijheel area yesterday were seriously injured when the lift fell from the seventh floor bringing the huge 'balance weight' along with it. Another person, Zahidul Islam, working with the team miraculously escaped unhurt.

According to Islam the four mechanics were trying to dismount the old lift in order to replace it with a new one. They climbed on top of the lift and tried to take down the slabs of the 'balance weight' one by one. Suddenly, the lift lost all its brakes and started to fall.

The moment the lift started to fall it jumped out of it and escaped. Others were not as lucky as me," Islam said.

He said that the falling lift was followed by the heavy iron slabs which 'smashed on top' of the victims. The impact of falling slabs were much greater than the fall of the lift itself, Islam said adding that the three were injured when the slabs smashed down on them.

The injured were identified as Rahmat, 19, Noor Alam, 25 both employees of Islam group and Salauddin, 20, who was hired for dismantling.

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## Jamaat condemns attack on procession

Jamaat-e-Islami condemned the attacks on a party procession in city's Paltan area and its central office at Maghbazar by 'Awami terrorists' during the hartal hours yesterday, reports UNB.

In a joint statement, Jamaat city Ameer ATM Azharul Islam and secretary Moulana Abu Taher said the government would eventually be ousted by the ongoing movement as no autocratic government in the past could perpetuate power by unleashing terrorism.

## Hospital sources said more than 12 persons injured either by bomb blasts or bullets were admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday.

Some of them were also released after first aid.

Police picked up 89 persons from different parts of the city on various charges during the hartal hours.

## Khulna

The city offices of Jatiya Party (JP) and Jamaat-e-Islami were ransacked in separate incidents during hartal hours in the port city yesterday. Supporters and opponents of hartal also fought battles with bricks, bats, guns and bombs. None was reported injured, according to our correspondent in Khulna.

## Rajshahi

Our correspondent said at least four people were injured in different hartal-related incidents in the city yesterday. One of them, a Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal leader, was stated to be in critical condition.

## Other districts

At Bhandaria, Pirojpur, at least seven persons were injured when anti-hartal activists attacked BNP office at Bhandaria Bazar yesterday, new agencies said.

Our correspondent from Faridpur said at least 30 persons were injured in a clash between rivals in a remote village of Satair under Boalmari thana Wednesday.

Some 10 persons were injured and at least two were arrested in Mymensingh in connection with hartal-related incidents, our correspondent said.

Our Natore correspondent said five persons were injured as rival activists clashed at Singra thana headquarters yesterday afternoon.

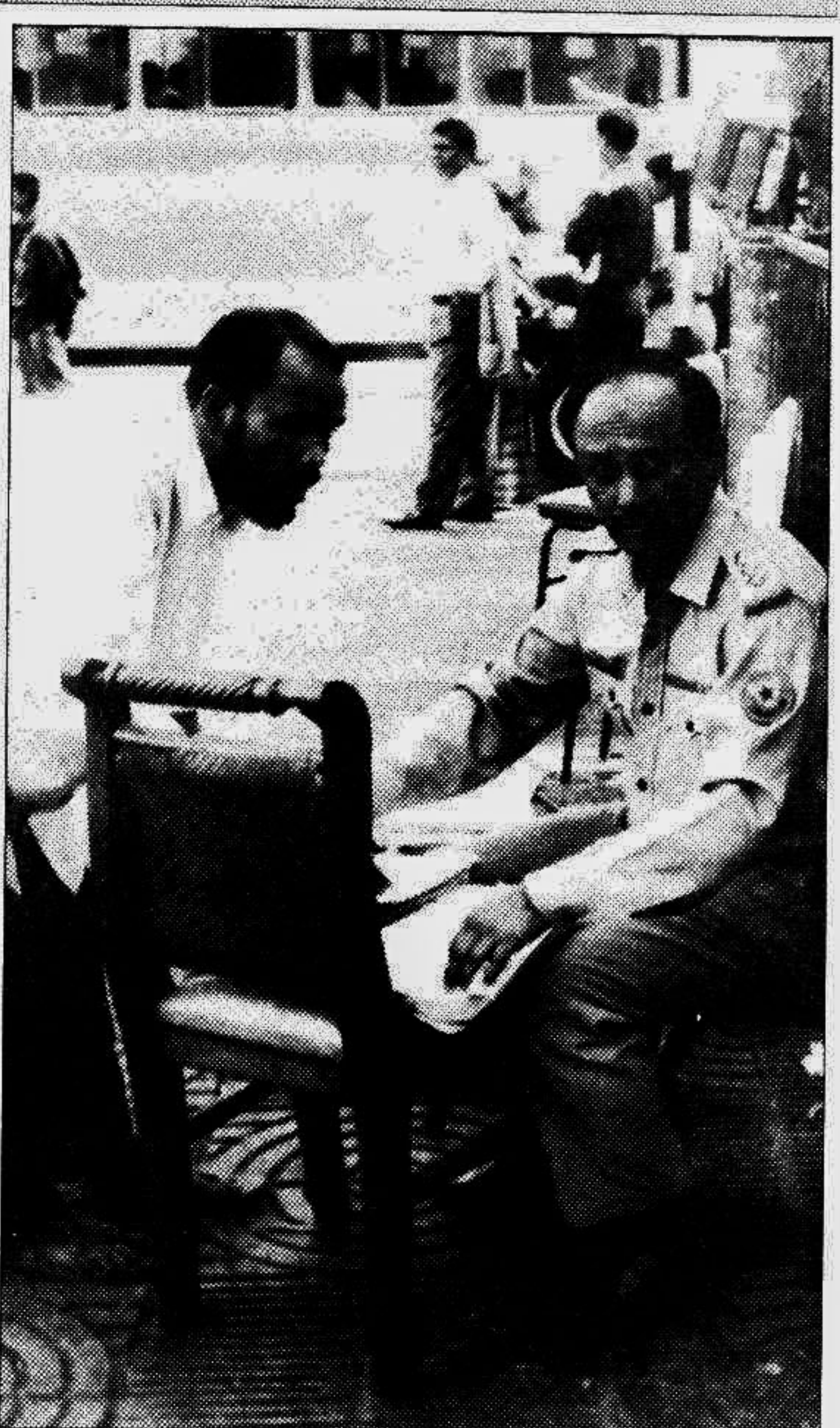
In Sherpur, a news agency said, five leaders of the BNP-backed Jubo Dal were arrested during the hartal hours.

## President, SG of BCS (Information) Assoc elected

Vice chairman of Film Censor Board Rabindra Gope and Senior Information Officer Mustafizur Rahman have been elected president and secretary-general respectively of BCS Information Association for the year 1999, reports APB.

The other office-bearers of the executive body were elected uncontested as only one panel had been submitted in the election.

Former president Mokbul Ahmed will remain an ex-officio member of the executive committee.



## Office with a view

Hartal may disrupt normal life, but some people are too diligent and dedicated to let work pile up in the office. As the above picture shows, the AC Crime of Dhaka Metropolitan Police set up office on the pavement outside the National Press Club. Finding time in between bouts of riot control, he managed to finish some essential paper work brought to him by his PA. — Star photo

## JCD wants RUCSU polls before admission test

JCD has demanded election to the students union of Rajshahi University before the admission test that will be held from February 23 to March 10, reports UNB.

Addressing a press conference at the University Press Club yesterday, JCD leader Taiful Islam threatened to enforce strike on the campus for an indefinite period if the authorities failed to hold election.

"We want RUCSU election before the admission test," he said and blamed the authorities for delaying the election.

Proctor of the University Prof Mokhesur Rahman said they also want to hold the elections and were discussing with student organisations.

## Navnritya begins February 17

A two-day Navnritya, a contemporary Indian dance, will begin at the Osmani Memorial Hall in the city on February 17, reports UNB.

Indian Council for Cultural Relations and the High Commission of India, Dhaka have organised the two solo performances by Ranjabati Sircar.

## 3 Chakma youths held in Rangamati

RANGAMATI, Feb 11: Three Chakma youths were arrested with arms from Badalchhari area this evening, reports UNB.

The gangsters are Dipayan Chakma, Sattayjit Chakma and Nirmal Chakma.

Police said they were engaged in extorting money from the people in different parts of the district.

## Raj Punnaha to be held today at Bandarban

BANDARBAN, Feb 11: The Raj Punnaha of the King of the Bomang circle will be held at the Banderban Raj Math tomorrow, reports APB.

Raj Punnaha is a century-old traditional festival of the Bomang tribe, formalising annual taxation of the Bomang king, the chief of one of the three circles in CHT.

People of the hills will throng at a big congregation styled *lokaj mela* (folk fair) on the occasion of the Raj Punnaha, the first of its kind being held after the coronation of the 15th Bomang King Aung Shoi Prue.

Local sources said the festival could not be held in the last three years due to a case over appointment of the Bomang King.

The holding of the Raj Punnaha is a proof of prevalence of rule of law in Bangladesh, the aging Bomang King said while addressing the gathering of the today.

## JS body on Ministry of Establishment meets

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Establishment Ministry at a meeting yesterday emphasised the need for removing discrepancy in salary among different civil service cadres and bringing harmony in promotions, reports APB.

The meeting, held at the Sangsad Bhaban with committee chairman Khondaker Asaduzzaman in the chair, also discussed the progress in implementation of resolutions adopted in previous sittings.

Advocate Rahmat Ali attended the meeting as representative of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.



Newly elected president of BCS (Information) Association Rabindra Chandra Gope (Left) and secretary general Mustafizur Rahman. —PID photo



The US govt yesterday announced a 2,50,000 dollar project to promote arsenic treatment system for safe drinking water. The demonstration of a water treatment plant was held at Ramna Park in the city yesterday. —Star photo