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Samad Azad's post-wedding reception

By Staff Correspondent

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad hosted a post-wedding reception at the post yesterday evening.

More than 2000 guests attended the reception which had all the trappings of a new marriage, including playing of Shehnai.

It was the second marriage for both Abdus Samad Azad, 74, and Nily Khan, 52. Both have three sons and one daughter from their previous marriages. The nuptial knot between the widower and the widow was tied Thursday night.

Among the guests who turned up were Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, ministers, a number of diplomats, eminent citizens and some people from his constituency in Sylhet.

Cheif Whip of the Opposition in the Jatiya Sangsad Khan-daker Delwar Hussain, former finance minister Saifur Rahman and leaders of some political parties were also present.

A visibly happy Abdus Samad Azad posed several times for photographers with his 'bride' and shook hands with all guests who came across him.

2000 outlaws

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chairman, surrendered to the police with 130 firearms in Jhenidah today.

The arms were SLR, sten gun, rifle, pistol, local gun, shutter gun, pipegun and a number of live bullets.

Anwar Hossain Debu of Biplobi Communist Party who was in hiding since 1972 said he surrendered at the call of the present government as people's welfare is not possible with arms.

Additional IGP Abdur Rahim Khan said those who surrendered will be in police custody and the government is actively thinking to provide them with jobs according to their qualification.

Director General of NSI Moshiur Rahman was the chief guest at the surrender function organised by Sramajibi Mukti Andolan on Pagla Kani Road in the town.

Those who surrendered included chairman of Porahati Union Parishad in Sadar thana, Shahidul Islam Hiron, Biplobi Communist Party leader Anwar Hossain Debu of Haripur village, Bidhan chief Bidhan, Tipu Bahini chief Tipu, Gano Fouz leader Sham-sul Alam Robin of Hatgopalpur area in Sadar thana, Brindaban Bairagi and Anwar Hossain Tipu and chief of Galib Bahini Asadullah Galib of the poura area, Shariful Islam Sharif of Kapasik village in Harinakundh thana, Minto of Golak Nagar village in Shalakupur thana, chief of Tarek Bahini Liakat Ali Tarek of Ikra village in Kotchandpur thana, Pradip of Shalikhan thana and Lalor Bahini chief Abu Dawood Lalor of Shatakhali village in Magura district, Biplobi Communist Party leader of Pangsha thana and Binoy Krishna of Sarbaraha Party in Rajbari district.

BCS examinees

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is on the rise. But the ratio is still at a tolerable level. In 1985, there was only one applicant for one technical post, which rose to 14 in 1994.

The report said there is a ray of hope for technical posts as the number of vacant posts is also increasing. In 1995 and 96 the ratio of posts and candidates were 1:10 and 1:7 respectively.

The ratio of post and aspirants for the Education cadre in 14th Special BCS examination in 1992 was 1:8. It rose to 1:14 in the 16th Special BCS exam in 1994.

The PSC report said the number of candidates from lower-income families getting government cadre jobs fell to less than 50 per cent in 1996-97 compared to that in 1990-91 while the wards of higher-income group secured most.

Only 12 per cent of the posts went to wards of guardians whose yearly income is Tk 25,000 or less in the 18th BCS as against 25.6 per cent at the 11th BCS.

Biotechnology

From Page 1
ment. The decision to set up NBI has come after another five years.

Experts were expressing concern for long that Bangladesh was falling far behind its Asian neighbours in the field of biotechnology. "Starting the journey much late, we now have to move faster and faster to catch up with the latest developments in the field," one of them said.

Meanwhile, there is a worldwide debate over suitability of GM food for human consumption.

Sources concerned pointed out that the US has made remarkable progress in developing GM foods over the last one decade and is now campaigning for further expansion of the sector in Europe and Asia.

On other hand, in the UK the debate over GM foods has now reached a new height with increasing demands for a five-year moratorium on consumption of GM foods.

Court rejects Manik's bail prayer again

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, June 6: The court today again rejected the bail prayer of Muhibur Rahman Manik, MP.

Shah E-Alam Chowdhury, Additional District & Sessions Judge, Sunamganj turned down the prayer moved in absence of the District & Sessions Judge, who is on leave.

The prosecution while opposing the bail prayer said the arrest is fully legal and it was done after going through all necessary formalities. The CID has gathered substantial evidences regarding the bomb making and the MP's complicity with this, it said adding it has already been evident that the people involved with bomb making were close to the MP and it was being financed by himself and done by his own men. The MP even gave a room attached to his bedroom for the purpose it pointed out. The CID also gathered sufficient evidences that the bomb making was planned for overpowering the opponents of the MP.

APP Abdur Rahim represented the prosecution.

They said, prior to his arrest, neither CID nor the police took permission from the Speaker of Jatiya Sangsad, it is a clear violation of rule of law as well as of the privileges given to an MP. They alleged adding, the so-called confessional statement under section 164 by the maid servant of the MP's house is fabricated. Arrest of an MP on the basis of statement of a maid who was fired long before the incident is not at all acceptable.

The government has given the status of a deputy minister to the Chairman of Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Board, Bir Bahadur MP, an official handout said in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

During his tenure, Bahadur will enjoy the status as per the existing law and provisions.

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