

Metropolitan

# Mud slinging continues in JS defying Speaker's appeal

In Parliament yesterday members from both sides indulged in mud slinging at each other defying earlier appeal of the Speaker and gentlemen's agreement by the government and opposition parties, reports UNB.

During the general discussion on the budget, they dragged in names of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Ziaur Rahman and drew comparison how good and bad they did to the nation during their governance.

The members were earlier advised by the chair to concentrate on the budget and refrain from mudslinging, but as they spoke, their passions rose and often ignored the advice.

Abu Yusuf Khalilur Rahman (BNP) taking part in the discussion on the budget observed that intellectual corruption was much more dangerous than financial corruption. He accused the State Minister for Information Prof Abu Sayeed of 'intellectual corruption'.

Referring to the 5.2 per cent GDP growth rate this year, he questioned why local and foreign experts did not accept figure if it was realistic.

He said he would praise the budget as pro-poor if the government could ensure availability of rice and onion at Tk 6 to 7 per kg.

Accusing the government of backing out of its election pledges, Yusuf said the government failed to repeal the Special Powers Act and eliminate terrorism. Rather, terrorism has been extended to villages from the campus.

SM Akram (AL) hailed the government for taking some realistic steps to raise investment and industrialisation of the country. He suggested for giving more incentives to rubber and packaging industries.

Salahuddin Kader Chowdhury (BNP) was critical of the

Finance Minister for his failure to mention the law and order situation, human rights, defence and foreign policy and corruption in the administration.

Often punched with wits and humour, Chowdhury said, 'The Finance Minister spent more of his time to the past instead of looking forward.'

He termed the budget as 'an annual general report of a public limited company and a untrue facts and figures.'

'Pakistan and India have attained nuclear weapons. But no light was shed on defence and foreign policy of the government in his budget speech,' he added.

Referring to defence purchases, Chowdhury regretted that the maintenance of Mig-29 procured from Russia was left in the hands of India.

About the GDP growth, he said a magic wand has taken the figure to 5.2 per cent that was earlier estimated by the government at 4 per cent.

Chowdhury questioned the source of additional revenue of Tk 2,650 crore, as envisaged in the budget, if fresh taxes were not imposed. He was critical of extending VAT on doctors, lawyers, small restaurants, electricity consumers.

In his lengthy deliberation, the BNP member from Chittagong wanted to know the overt and covert deals with Indian Prime Minister Vajpayee during his recent visit to Dhaka.

Ruling party member Abdul Latif Siddiqui, referring to the opposition criticism, observed that the conflict is not with the budget. 'The conflict is democracy versus army rule, killing and humanity.'

He said the President had referred back to Parliament for reconsideration of a bill passed in the House. There was nothing

wrong in it, rather it manifested existence of fair democracy, absent during the previous regimes.

Col (ret'd) Oli Ahmed (BNP) accused the Finance Minister for furnishing distorted facts and figures in the budget to mislead the people.

He said the foreign reserves have come down to the lowest in last 10 years.

Oli said 8.7 per cent of inflation showed the country's economy was not in the right track. He termed as unrealistic the 22 per cent increase in revenue earning proposed in the budget.

He made a wild allegation of corruption against the members of the cabinet. He said cost of development projects were several times higher than the past because of massive corruption on the administration.

The opposition member, however, hailed the income tax structure and suggested withdrawal of VAT proposed on doctors, lawyers and small restaurants.

On Voters ID Card, he said photographs of 40 to 70 per cent electorates were taken in different parts of the country. There can be election without giving ID cards to all the voters.

Commenting on law and order situation he said 300 people were killed in last three years of Awami League rule. Of them, 200 were killed in Chittagong city alone.

Mir Shakawat Ali Daru (AL) termed the budget as pro-people and said the government has fulfilled all its commitments given to people.

Jaynul Abdin Farooq (BNP) criticised the Finance Minister for giving fabricated figures in his budget. He said the Minister had no guts to admit his imposition of fresh tax on the people.

'When you impose VAT on doctors or lawyers, who would pay finally,' he questioned.

He accused the government

of politicising the police and the administration.

Fazlur Rahman Patal (BNP) admitting his little knowledge of the budget said he however, failed to understand how the exchequer would increase the revenue income by 22.5 per cent when it fell short by Tk 1000 crore during the outgoing fiscal year.

Giving a comparative situation of the price of essentials, he said in all cases prices were much lower during the BNP regime. 'So, how could you claim that the budget is pro-poor,' he questioned the ruling party.

'Could you tell us how much of your GDP growth reflected in the day to day life of the commonman,' he asked the Finance Minister.

He was critical of opening up of market, mainly for Indian products, to the detriment of the domestic industry. 'Now the economy is under the grip of the Hindustani Marwaries,' he said.

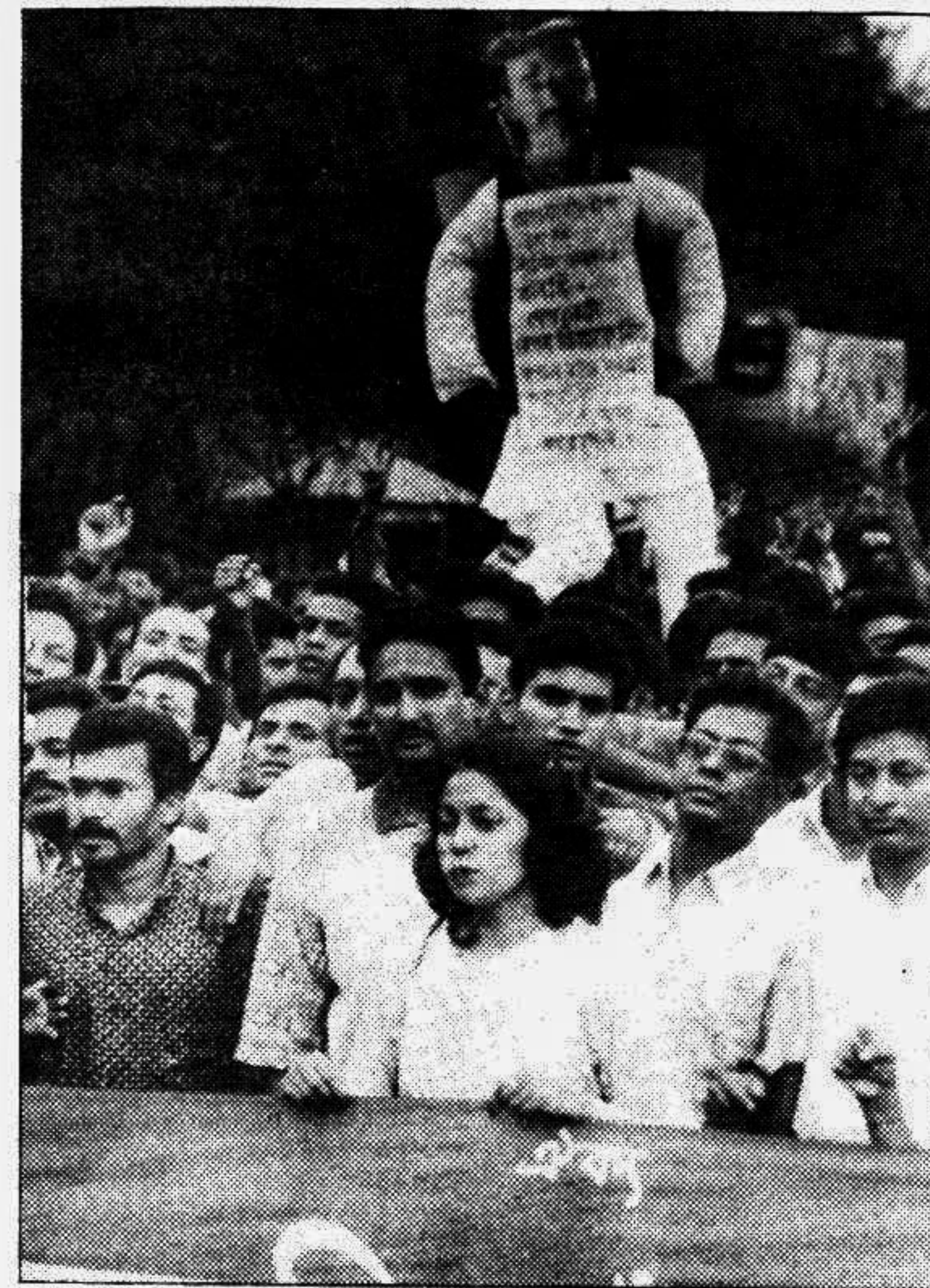
Advocate Sheikh Mohammad Nurul Haq (AL) sought protection of the chair alleging that Sadek Hossain Khoka and Fazlur Rahman Patal of BNP have physically assaulted Maj (Ret'd) Akhtaruzzaman (BNP) in the Parliament lobby.

Advocate Fazle Rabbi (JP) suggested the Finance Minister to withdraw VAT on doctor and lawyers saying it would ultimately affect the poor patients and litigants.

He said higher growth rate would be meaningless if the living condition of the people was not improved.

Rabbi suggested allocation of adequate funds for the power sector to overcome the crisis.

Others who took part in the discussion were Abu Lais Momen Chowdhury (JP), Jalaluddin Talukder (AL), Mizanul Haq (AL) and Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury (BNP).



JCD brought out a procession in the city yesterday protesting ruling party MP Shamim Osman's remarks on BNP chairperson.

## The British Council Teaching Centre

Our next cycle of English courses runs from 4 July to 9 September, 1999.

Registration: Mon 28, Tue 29, Wed 30 June & Thu 1 July '99. Time: 12:30-5pm.

- General English Course & HSC/SSC Students' Course Tk. 6,400
- Writing For Professionals Tk. 7,100
- (BEC-1) Business English Certificate Preparation (includes Cambridge examination fees) Tk. 11,500
- (BEC-2) Business English Certificate Preparation (includes Cambridge examination fees) Tk. 11,750
- IELTS Preparation Course Tk. 10,100
- Course for Young Learners (ages 6-14) also available Tk. 5,400
- Variety of class days and times.
- Placement test Tk. 250.00 per participant (not included in course fees)
- Registration: Monday to Thursday from 12:30-5pm
- To join any of the courses you must pay the full course fees at the time of registration.

### The British Council Teaching Centre

754b Satmasjid Road, Dhanmondi, Dhaka. Tel: 911 6171, 911 6545 Fax: 816554 e-mail DT@TheBritishCouncil.net

## PPP leader calls on Hasina

Chaudhry Muhammad Zaka Ashraf, member of the Central Executive Committee of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) called on Awami League president and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her Sangsad Bhaban office yesterday afternoon, reports BSS.

They discussed matters relating to the two political parties. State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury was present at the meeting. Ashraf came here on June 23 at the invitation of Bangladesh Awami League to attend its golden jubilee celebrations.

The PPP leader addressed the inaugural function of the three-day celebrations at the Paltan Maidan along with other dignitaries from different countries.

He also visited Bangabandhu Memorial Museum and Dhaka University.

## Bangla Academy project to compile history of Liberation War

The Bangla Academy yesterday launched a project for compiling regional history of the country's Liberation War, reports BSS.

The project, 'Bangladesher Muktyuddho: Dalil O-Eitihash Bishayak Grantha Prokalpa,' is aimed at compiling the spoken and regional history of the Liberation War. Acting Project Director Dr Sukumar Biswas said.

'Bangla Academy has already received positive responses from writers and experts of different disciplines in compiling oral and regional history of 64 districts of the country,' Director General Professor of the academy Syed Anwar Hossain said while making a presentation on the project at a workshop in the academy conference hall yesterday morning.

Prof Hossain said that the prime objective of the special endeavor of the academy, suspended for several years, was to present the history of the Liberation War to the new generations.

The history would be presented in the commoners' language and every newspaper reader would be able to grasp the meaning, he said.

## Samad Azad in Paris

Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad arrived in Paris yesterday afternoon on his way to Burkina Faso to attend the 26th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, reports UNB.

Bangladesh Ambassador in France Syed Muazzem Ali received Azad at the Orly Airport. Azad a message received in the city yesterday.

A large number of workers and leaders of France Unit of Bangladesh Awami League, including the president and general secretary, were present at the airport to receive the Foreign Minister.

Azad, later, exchanged views with some Bangladeshi expatriates and called upon them to invest in Bangladesh.

He said expected to leave Paris today for Burkina Faso to attend the 26th ICFM there.

## Weather

### Thundershowers likely

Due to prevailing active monsoon, moderate rain and thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at most places over the country with moderately heavy to heavy falls at places in the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country during the period, according to Met Office.

Rain fall activity may decrease gradually in the subsequent two days.

Country's highest temperature 33.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Mongla and the lowest 23.5 degree Celsius at Satkhira. The sun sets today at 6.50 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.13 am.

Maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	28.4	25.0	97	88
Chittagong	31.4	24.0	90	85
Rajshahi	28.5	26.2	92	89
Khulna	32.5	25.6	92	74
Barisal	31.5	25.8	85	82
Sylhet	29.5	25.0	83	92
Cox's Bazar	29.5	24.0	97	92

## Dhaka WASA Tender Notice

পানির অপচয় বন্ধ করুন। ম্যানহোলের ঢাকনা চুরি রোধ করুন

Tenders are invited from Dhaka WASA enlisted class I, II and III automobiles contractors/bonafide proprietors of automobile workshop/suppliers contractors/bonafide suppliers/manufacturers for the work of supply of materials for repair work of Dhaka-Metro-Ka-04-0471 Toyota car (EE 90) at an allocation of expenditure of Taka 35,969.80. Tenders will be received till 12:00 Noon on 12/7/99 and will be opened the same day at 2:00 PM before the tenders or their representatives (if any one remains present).

Schedule of tenders will be available from the office of the Chief Accounts Officer of Dhaka WASA, WASA Bhaban, 98, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka and all MODS Zone Offices of Dhaka WASA. Other details will be available from the office of the undersigned.

Address: Khagendranath Roy Executive Engineer Workshop Division Dhaka WASA. Mirpur, Dhaka WASA-11-222/99 DFP-14201-22/6 GD-583

## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Executive Engineer Mymensingh Public Works Division Mymensingh

### Corrigendum of Tender Notice

The following amendments have been brought in the tender notice invited through the tender notice of this office No C-25 (1998-99) and Memo No T/291/1(3) dated 8-6-99 for construction of 1 (one) for girls in Mymensingh district under a project titled converting the existing government 'Shishu Sadan' into 'Shishu Paribar' 2nd phase divided into 4 (four) groups for various works.

1. For the work of serial No-2, in the first line of the column of the eligibility of contractors' firms 'Special Class I of the Public Works Department' will have to be read instead of 'Class I of Public Works Department'.
2. For the work of serial No-4 in the column of the eligibility of contractors' firms 'Class III Civil and Sanitary of Mymensingh Public Works Circle' will have to be read instead of 'Class III Civil and Sanitary'.
3. 'Date of receiving tender' will have to be read instead of 'Last date of receiving tender'.
4. If more than one lowest tenderer is found, then in order to select 1 (one) contractor a lottery for the work of only serial No-4 instead of the works of serial No-2, 3, 4, will be held on 11-08-99 at 11:00 AM in the office chamber of the undersigned and lottery for the work of serial No 1, 2, 3 instead of the work of serial No-1 will be held on 12-08-99 at 11:00 AM in the office chamber of the Superintending Engineer, Mymensingh Public Works Circle by him.

Other terms and conditions of tender will remain unchanged. Abdul Mabud Chowdhury Executive Engineer Mymensingh Public Works Division Mymensingh Phone: 54276 DFP-14241-22/6 G-1213

## Alleged misstatement of assets Sayeed demands trial of Khaleda, Ershad

State Minister for Information Prof Abu Sayeed yesterday demanded trial of former president HM Ershad and former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia for alleged misstatement on their assets, reports UNB.

Participating in the budget discussion, the state minister said late Ziaur Rahman in his declaration of assets in 1974 acknowledged ownership of a piece of 10 katha land.

But, after his death, former president Ershad allocated a house in the Cantonment in exchange of only one taka and then another at Gulshan for only 100 taka.

Khaleda took possession of both these houses knowing fully well about the peace of land that was purchased by Zia in her name.

'I demand the trial of Ershad and Khaleda Zia for hiding the truth,' he said.

Termining the years after August, 75 as period of plunder, corruption and terrorism, the State Minister said: 'We know about your power base. This budget can't satisfy you because this is a budget for the general people and targeted to their welfare.'

He said until 1975, annual budgets had been targeted to bring meaningful change in the

rural economy while, the post-75 budgets aimed at 'helping the plunderers and defaulters.'

Referring to Khaleda Zia's statement that there has been no investment in the country during the AL rule, he urged the leader of the opposition to talk responsibly and base her statement on facts.

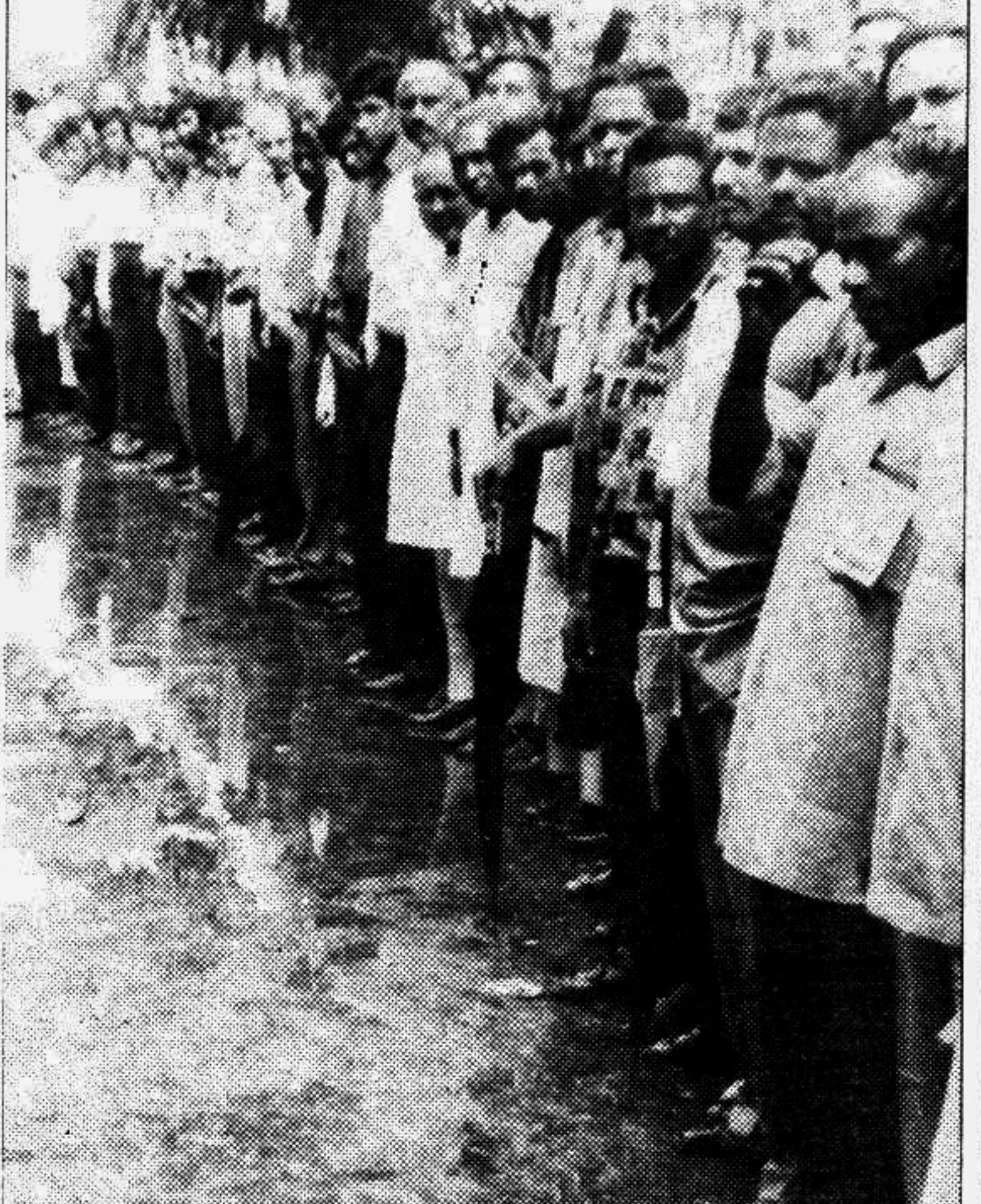
'During the five years of BNP, total investment (local and foreign) was 5783 million US dollars while during the two and a half years of AL rule the total investment came up to 8469 million US dollars.'

He said that the total foreign investment registration during the BNP rule was 3128 million US dollars while during the AL regime the amount is 5903 million US dollars.

'You have no right to issue statements which has negative impact,' he said.

Referring to the comments made by Dr Momen Khan and former Speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali, the state minister for information said they gave one-sided information trying to confuse the people.

'Intellectual dishonesty is more dangerous than financial dishonesty,' he said urging both the BNP leaders to give out full information while talking on a issue.



Lawyers' assistants staged a demonstration in the city yesterday, demanding enactment of lawyers' assistant Council Law.

## What's on today....

**Film show:** Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen eight films as part of its programme, 'Retrospective of Contemporary World Cinema.' Today's films: Life is Beautiful at 5 pm and To the Starry Island at 7 pm. Venue: Cultural Centre, House No 10, Road No 9, Dhanmondi.

## What's on tomorrow....

**Film show:** Organised by Zahir Raihan Film Society. Films: Jamon! Jamon! at 5 pm and Tilai at 7 pm. Venue: German Cultural Centre.

## Bangladesh Railway Tender Notice

Engineering Department (East Zone) Dated: 16/6/99

Sealed tenders are invited from the enlisted 'C' Class Contractor of Bangladesh Railway, East Zone for the work at Jamalpur Town Rly. Station Manufacturing and erection of foot over Bridge including RCC work for slab and CC work for foundation as per approved plan. Approximate cost of work in Tk 12.00 lac. Earnest money 2% (two per cent) of total quoted price. Cost of the tender documents Tk 750/- (Seven hundred fifty) only per set (Non-refundable). Tender documents will be available for purchase in the office of the Chief Engineer/East, Bangladesh Railway/ Chittagong, Bridge Engineer/ East, Chittagong, Divisional Engineer, 3/Dhaka and Deputy Commissioner/ Chittagong in all working days up to 28/6/99 during office hours on cash payment. Dropping and opening of the tender in public are 12:00 hrs and 12:30 hrs respectively on 29/6/99 in the aforesaid office. Railway Administration reserves the right to accept or reject the tender as a whole or in part thereof.

No S/99 (73) For Chief Engineer/East B Railway, Chittagong GD-582

## Office of the Chairman Sylhet Pourashava, Sylhet

### Tender Notice for Local Competitive Bidding for Installation of Water Supply House Connections

Contract No. SYL-HC-01, under ADB Loan No. 1264 BAN (SF) Memo No. S.M/Engg/9DTP/45/99 Date: ..... June, 1999.

1. The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a Loan No. 1264 BAN (SF) from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in various currencies towards the Second Water Supply and Sanitation Project (9-Towns-Water Supply and Sanitation Project). It is intended that part of the proceeds of this credit will be applied to eligible payments for the above works under Water Supply Expansion Program.
2. The Chairman, Sylhet Pourashava now wishes to invite sealed bids for the execution of the above referenced works from the bidders who were earlier pre-qualified either in rehabilitation or major works in water supply pipe lines category under 9-Towns Water Supply Project.
3. Bid documents with detailed specifications, terms and conditions and other papers may be purchased by the interested eligible bidders on submission of a written application and upon a cash payment of a non-refundable fee of Tk. 1,000.00 (Taka one thousand) only from the office of (i) The Chairman, Sylhet Pourashava; (ii) Project Director, DPHE, Second Water Supply & Sanitation Project, House # 8/D, Road # 14 (new), Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1209, or (iii) Executive Engineer, DPHE, Sylhet on all working days during normal office hours till 15 June, 1999.
4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the offices indicated above and inspect the bid documents during the office hours.
5. The following procedure for receiving and opening of bids shall apply: The bid document must be duly completed in 2 sets (one original and one copy) and delivered as follows:
  - The original and a copy of the bidding documents accompanied by a security of 2% (two per cent) of the bid price (as per clause 15.2 of section 1: instruction of bidders) in favour of the Chairman must be delivered either via mail or in person to any of the above offices on or before 12:00 hours on 19 July, 1999. No bid will be considered for acceptance following expiry of the aforementioned date and time. The original money receipt for purchasing the documents must be attached to the bidding document.
  - After the closing date, the unopened bid documents received by Project Director and Executive Engineer, DPHE, will be sent to the office of the Chairman.
  - Within two days of receiving this documents, the bids will be publicly opened at the office of the Chairman in the presence of those representative of the bidders who like to attend. The representatives must obtain the scheduled opening date and time from the Chairman's office.
6. The Chairman will not be responsible for any cost or expenses incurred by the bidders in connection with the preparation and delivery of bids.
7. The Chairman reserves the right to accept any bid, or any part of the bid or to reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof and in such case no compensation will be entertained.

Badar Uddin Ahmed Kamran Chairman Sylhet Pourashava GD-581

## Khulna Shipyard Ltd, Khulna Bangladesh Navy International Tender Notice

Managing Director, Khulna Shipyard Ltd, Khulna, invited sealed quotations for the following:-

Sl No.	Tender enquiry No. and date	Description of goods	Price of tender documents	Terms of delivery	Opening date	Source of fund
1	BABE(F)-115/BNS DURNIBAR/98-99 Date: 23.6.99	Electric cables light fitting Navigation Lights, Search Lights, Distribution Board, Emergency Switch Board, Port Light & other Ship fittings etc.	Tk 300.00 (Three hundred) only (Non-refundable)	C&F Mongla/ Chittagong	17.8.99 at 10:30 AM	Cash/Loan/ Credit
2	BABE(F)-31/98-99 Date: 23.6.99	Spray Painting Machine and its accessories, spare parts and Air Hose Pipe for Sand Blasting Machine.	Tk 100.00 (One hundred) only (Non-refundable)	-do-	-do-	-do-

Documents may be obtained during office hours on payment from:- 1. Naval Store Sub Depot, Dhaka, Naval Headquarters Complex, Banani, Dhaka-1213. 2. Naval Store Depot, New Mooring, Chittagong. 3. Office of the Commodore Commanding Khulna, Town Khalishpur, Khulna. 4. Cash Section, Khulna Shipyard Ltd, Khulna. GD-580 Managing Director