

News snaps

'Rajpunnah' begins

BANDARBAN, Jan 3: A weeklong programme, marking the traditional 'Rajpunnah' of the Bomang tribe, begins on the ground of the Bomang King's palace here on January 13, reports UNB.

At the programme, people from 109 moujas in Bomang circle will pay their annual tax to the Circle Chief (King) Aung Shu Pru.

This will be the second such function since the takeover of the present king. The tribal clan has been observing the programme since 1727 when Kangla Pru was the king.

At a press conference here on Friday, the king said although Chakma Circle of Rangamat district and Mong Circle of Khagrachhari district holding such function they would continue it in the district.

Bus fare raised

MUNSHIGANJ, Jan 3: With the approach of the Eid-ul-Fitar, bus fare on different routes of the district has been raised arousing controversy, reports UNB.

Passengers alleged that fare of AC buses plying on Dhaka-Mukhtarpur route has been raised by Tk 5 while that of non-AC ones Tk 2. Besides, fare of the buses plying on Dhaka-Munshiganj, Dhaka-Baligaon, Dhaka-Dighirpur and Dhaka-Betka routes has been raised from Tk 3 to Tk 8 although their services continued to fall. Meanwhile, toll extortion from busses and trucks on different routes has increased alarmingly due to inaction by the law enforcing agencies. The extortionists are seen active at 15 specific points, including both sides of Mukhtarpur Ferry Ghat, Kathipatti, Kashipur, Sipahpara and Hatimara.

Nine alleged robbers held

NAOGAON, Jan 3: Nine alleged robbers were arrested while making off with booty after committing dacoity in a house at Rathbari in Santahar Municipality on Thursday, reports UNB.

Witnesses said a police patrol team with the help of local people laid siege to a gang of bandits while fleeing with valuables from the house of one Haibur Rahman. After a long chase, nine dacoits were caught along with seven grams of gold ornament and lethal weapons. They were sent to jail.

Mulberry saplings planted

MAGURA, Jan 3: Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC), a leading NGO, planted some 23,286 mulberry saplings in the district this season, reports UNB.

Officials said the trees were planted on about 28km roadside land and BRAC's own farms. BRAC also has a target to produce some 1.20 lakh silkworms in its Magura farm, which has created job opportunities for nearly 50 women.

Traffic disrupted

MYMENSINGH, Jan 3: Traffic on Mymensingh-Netrakona road was disrupted for five hours on Sunday following the death of a woman in a road accident in Hironpur area of Netrakona district, reports UNB.

Witnesses said people barricaded the road at about 9 am when an unidentified woman aged about 45 was crushed under the wheels of a truck while crossing the road. Traffic on the road returned to normal at about 2pm when the barricade was removed after a negotiation with the local administration. A case was filed in this connection.

Five outlaws arrested

NATORE, Jan 3: Police in a special drive arrested five alleged members of an outlawed party from three villages in Chalan Beel area of Singra thana on Wednesday, reports UNB.

The arrested — Monsur Ali, 40, Swapan Kumar, 35, Shantosh, 42, Bhupen, 50 and Monju, 55 — believed to be the members of outlawed Sarbahara Party. They were wanted by police in several criminal cases, including murder and extortion.

Workers deprived of salary

BENAPOLE, Jan 3: Non-disbursement of salaries to 300 field workers of the Department of Family Welfare for the last five months has thrown them into a deep uncertainty, reports UNB.

Officials said they could not give salaries to the workers working under different projects due to fund shortage. Besides, 18, out of 97, field workers of the department in frontier Sarsha thana are also not getting their salaries.

School bldgs being built

TANGAIL, Jan 3: Facilities Department of Tangail Zone is constructing five academic buildings for five high schools at a total cost of Taka 87.5 lakh in the current fiscal year, reports BSS.

Official sources said under this programme academic buildings for Bindubashi Government High School, Santosh Islamic University, Government Girl's School, Jamalpur Zila School, Nandina Government High School and Melanda Government High School are being constructed. The work will be completed in eight months.

Railway communication starts

JESSORE, Jan 3: The reconstruction work of Jessore-Benapole Railway is rapidly progressing. Three and a half km of railway line has already been completed, reports BSS.

The railway communication between Bangladesh and India through Benapole will be started within a few months. According to a Railway source in west region of Bangladesh Railway, the Prime Minister issued this order to decrease carriage cost of export and import of goods. The three and a half km railway line starts from Benapole station. The reconstruction work of bridges and culverts and laying of 35 km Railway track from Jessore junction to Benapole has started.

Urs mubarak

MADARIPUR, Jan 3: A two-day long Urs Mubarak of Sharif Mohamamad Pir Kamel Shah Sufi Golam Mustafa Chisti Ajmiri concluded here at Chisti Darbar at village Kulfardi in Madaripur sadar on December 31, reports BSS.

Thousands of devotees of Pir Sahab from different places attended the Urs. The programme of the Urs included feeding of the distressed, special prayers and session of spiritual songs.



Victory '71.

— Star photo

Jessore liberation memorial 'Victory '71' opens

From Atiur Rahman

JESSORE, Jan 3: A sculpture of Victory '71 was unveiled by the Sector Commander of Sector no 8 of the Liberation War in 1971. Lt. Col (Retd) Abu Osman Chowdhury on December 7 last to mark the historic liberation day of Jessore from the clutches of Pakistani occupation army.

A gathering of selected people including Ali Reza Raju MP, Khan Tipu Sultan MP, Waliul Islam and freedom fighters Rabiul Alam, Khoirat Hossain, Ashok Roy, FM Nuruddin, Pigeus Kanti Bhattacharya, Mukul Siddiki, Hasinur Rahman, and Advocate Sharif Abdul Rakib, Secretary of the Jessore unit of Awami League, were present in the function.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Jessore Aminur Rasul read out the address of welcome.

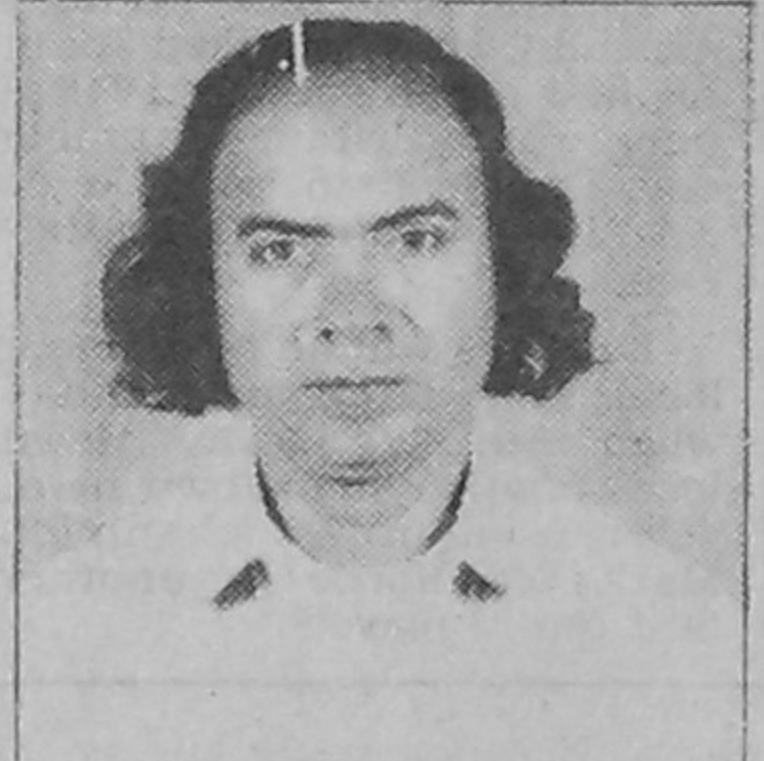
Abdul Malek Mia, former DC of Jessore, chalked out the plan to erect the sculpture of Victory '71 in a bid to uphold the spirit and values of the Liberation War for the new generations. He was a freedom fighter and fought under Sector no 8 during the Liberation War. He selected the site at New Khoirtala turning point, which is gateway to Jessore Cantonment and local town.

A 130 member committee with DC Abdul Malek Mia as convenor was formed to implement the project. Abdul Malek Mia laid the foundation stone of the sculpture on the Independence Day on March 26, 1998. People from all walks contributed generously in the construction work.

The Sculpture was named as

Victory '71 through a competition. Sculptor Badrul Islam Nannu formerly Assistant Professor of Khulna Art College, was given the responsibility to construct the sculpture. Enayet Hossain, assisted Badrul Islam Nannu in constructing the sculpture. A total of Taka 950,000 was spent to complete the 32 feet high sculpture.

It is 10 feet in radius with three angles, erected on a triangle shaped landscape. Sculptor Badrul Islam Nannu explaining the theme of the sculpture, informed that



Badrul Islam, sculptor of the memorial.

three angles mean nine months of Liberation War, inserted eight figures mean Sector no 8, a woman with a pigeon in hand symbolises peace, a child with a big V in hand means victory and a big procession led by freedom fighters symbolises the mourning of martyrs who laid down their valuable lives in the Liberation War of 1971.

The liberation of Jessore was a miracle. It was unexpectedly unopposed by the Pakistani occupation army and without any bloodshed.

Valiant freedom fighters backed by the Allied forces led the offensive on November 21. A fierce fighting took place at Muktiagar in Jessore western

front. Pakistani occupation army suffered crushing defeat in this battle and they were totally annihilated. This defeat rocked the Pakistan Army and their commandants felt nervous to counter the freedom fighters and the Allied forces.

The occupation Pakistan army retreated towards Khulna vacating their "Lingard of the East"— Jessore Cantonment well before arrival of the freedom fighters and the Allied forces. In fact from Jessore Cantonment, 600 kilometre-long borders with India from Bheramra to the Bay of Bengal, were being controlled by Pakistani Major General Showkat Raja during the beginning of the Liberation War. General Ansari took the charge on the threshold of the war. Jessore was under the jurisdiction of Sector no 8.

Maj Abu Osman Chowdhury, Commander of EPR, Chuadanga was the Sector commander of Sector no 8. He was replaced by Maj M A Manzoor after his return from Pakistan in mid August 1971. Maj Gen Manzoor was killed in May in 1981.

Captain Khondoker Nazmul Huda, Captain Shafiqullah, Capt Salahuddin, Capt Shabuddin capt AR Azam Chowdhury, Capt Mustafizur Rahman, Capt. Toufiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury and Lt Jahangir fought as Sub-Sector Commanders under this sector during the Liberation War.

Reinforced by the Allied forces under the command of Lt Gen Raina, freedom fighters moved towards Jessore. In the early hours on December 7, 1971 when they came they found the cantonment and the town completely vacant and deserted. No living human beings were there excepting barking dogs fighting with hungry vultures to snatch the decomposed bodies scattered on the streets. Such a scene was horrible and dreadful, ever found in our history of memorable past.



Lt Col (Retd) Abu Osman Chowdhury unveiling the sculpture 'Victory '71'.

— Star photo

Bright prospect of rubber cultivation

PANCHAGARH, Jan 3: Panchagarh has a bright prospect for rubber cultivation as its climate and lands are very favourable for the farming, experts said, reports UNB.

They said high yielding variety of rubber can easily be cultivated on the 83,378 acres of lands that remained fallow in Tetulia and Debiganj thanas.

If the government takes up programmes, they said, dry rubber worth about Tk 2 crore can be produced every year creating job opportunities for over

one lakh people.

Erstwhile East Pakistan Forest Industries Development Corporation planted rubber saplings on few acres of land in the district on experiment basis in early 60s. "No effective initiative has virtually been taken since then," said an expert.

After a long time, former manager of a local tea garden Anwar Hossain has cultivated rubber on 14 acres of land at Sakoa in Boda thana and he too sees a bright future of rubber cultivation here.

Malaria claimed 1,283 lives in 13 dists in 3 yrs

BANDARBAN, Jan 3: At least 1,283 people died of malaria in the last three years in 13 most malaria-vulnerable districts of the country, while about 1,80,000 people were so far affected during the period, reports BSS.

From January 1997 to November 1999, about 1,87,000 people were affected by the deadly disease across the country. Of them at least 1,80,000 were the inhabitants of the 13 border and hill districts, sources at the Health Directorate told.

About one crore people of Bandarban, Rangamati, Khagrachhari, Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, Sylhet, Mymensingh, Kurigram, Netrakona, Sherpur, Hobiganj, Sunamganj and Moulvibazar have been living with the risk of this malignant disease.

Following the malaria disaster in the districts, the Health Directorate has taken a pilot project to check the death toll and get rid of massive malaria fever.

As part of the initial step of the two-year project, a two-day workshop on "Malaria Prevention Strategy at District Level" was held here on December 29 to fix the operational strategy for removing malaria from the country, especially from the unprotected areas.

Civil Surgeons of the 13 districts, Thana Health and Family Planning Officers of 21 thanas researchers of the "Malaria Research Group" of Chittagong Medical College attended the workshop, first of its kind in the country.

Prof Ahsan Ullah, Director General of Health, said that the pilot project, sponsored by the

World Health Organisation (WHO), would be formally launched from next February.

"If the project was implemented, death toll due to malaria would be reduced significantly and risk of malaria would also be eliminated among the people of these 13 districts," he added.

Under the project, steps will be taken to provide quick medical care facilities to the affected people and the mosquito nets of the inhabitants of the 13 districts would be sprayed by delta methoprine medicine.

Primarily, programmes for preventing malaria diseases will be taken in seven thanas of Bandarban district and three thanas of Cox's Bazar district, while the remaining thanas would be brought under the project in phases.

Sirajganj residents experience thick fogs

SIRAJGANJ, Jan 3: Thick fogs enveloped the district headquarters in the morning on Monday, forcing most of the residents to stay indoors.

The town dwellers have been experiencing the foggy weather for the last two or three days.

The sun appeared in the sky after noon on Monday.

The foggy weather is causing disruption to smooth traffic movement on highways, besides riverine communications.

Six doctors hurt in Barisal road accident

From Staff Correspondent BARISAL, Jan 3: Six doctors and the driver of an ambulance of Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital (SBMCH), Barisal were injured, four critically, when they met an accident in Kalijira bridge area, some 5 kilometres away from the town on Friday night.

According to witnesses and hospital sources, the ambulance, carrying the six doctors, fell into a roadside ditch near the bridge, injuring the doctors identified as Shaik, Bidhan, Mizan, Saiful, Hasan, Badsha and the ambulance driver, Lal Mia.

The doctors were on way to pick up an ailing mother of one of their colleagues.

Saifur for computer education of youths

From Our Correspondent MOULVI BAZAR, Jan 3: Former Finance Minister and central leader of the main opposition BNP M Saifur Rahman MP has said that the young people of our society will be the leader of our country in near future. They will lead the nation with their knowledge and education. So they must be properly educated in all modern and progressive subjects including science and technology.

Saifur Rahman said this while inaugurating a newly established computer training centre at Moulvibazar recently.

He further said that computer education is now a most necessary subject for the youngsters. If our youngmen fail to learn computer operation, the nation as a whole will pay seriously.

The function was presided over by its director Bakshi Misbaur Rahman.

Extortionists active ahead of Eid

From Akhteruzzaman

SIRAJGANJ, Jan 3: Extortionists have become active in the northern districts, including Sirajganj, ahead of Eid-ul-Fitr festival, much to the chagrin of businessmen, transport operators and traders.

Extortionists in the guise of transport workers are collecting 'illegal toll' from drivers of passenger buses and trucks on highways in the region.

According to reports, these so called transport workers, equipped with bamboo sticks, intercept vehicles and charge 'Eid greetings' at different points on highways in Rajshahi, Dinajpur, Panchagarh, Rangpur, Naogaon, Pabna, Natore, Bogra, Lalmonirhat and

also in Sirajganj. In Sirajganj, extortionists, allegedly backed by politically influential people, are also collecting 'tolls' from businessmen and traders.

Local people allege members of law enforcing agencies do not pay attention to these incidents of 'toll' collection from shop owners and traders. The extortionists, however, describe the 'toll' as Eid Shubhechacha, or Eid greetings.

A police official in Sirajganj, requesting anonymity, said as most of the extortionists are also activists of different political parties, they cannot take proper action because of political pressures they face.

He, however, said additional petrol police were deployed on highways to arrest highway extortionists.

Sarbahara activist held for murder

From Our Correspondent SIRAJGANJ, Jan 3: An activist of outlawed Sarbahara Party Arju was arrested from Mafinagar village under Raiganj thana on Thursday in connection with the murder of

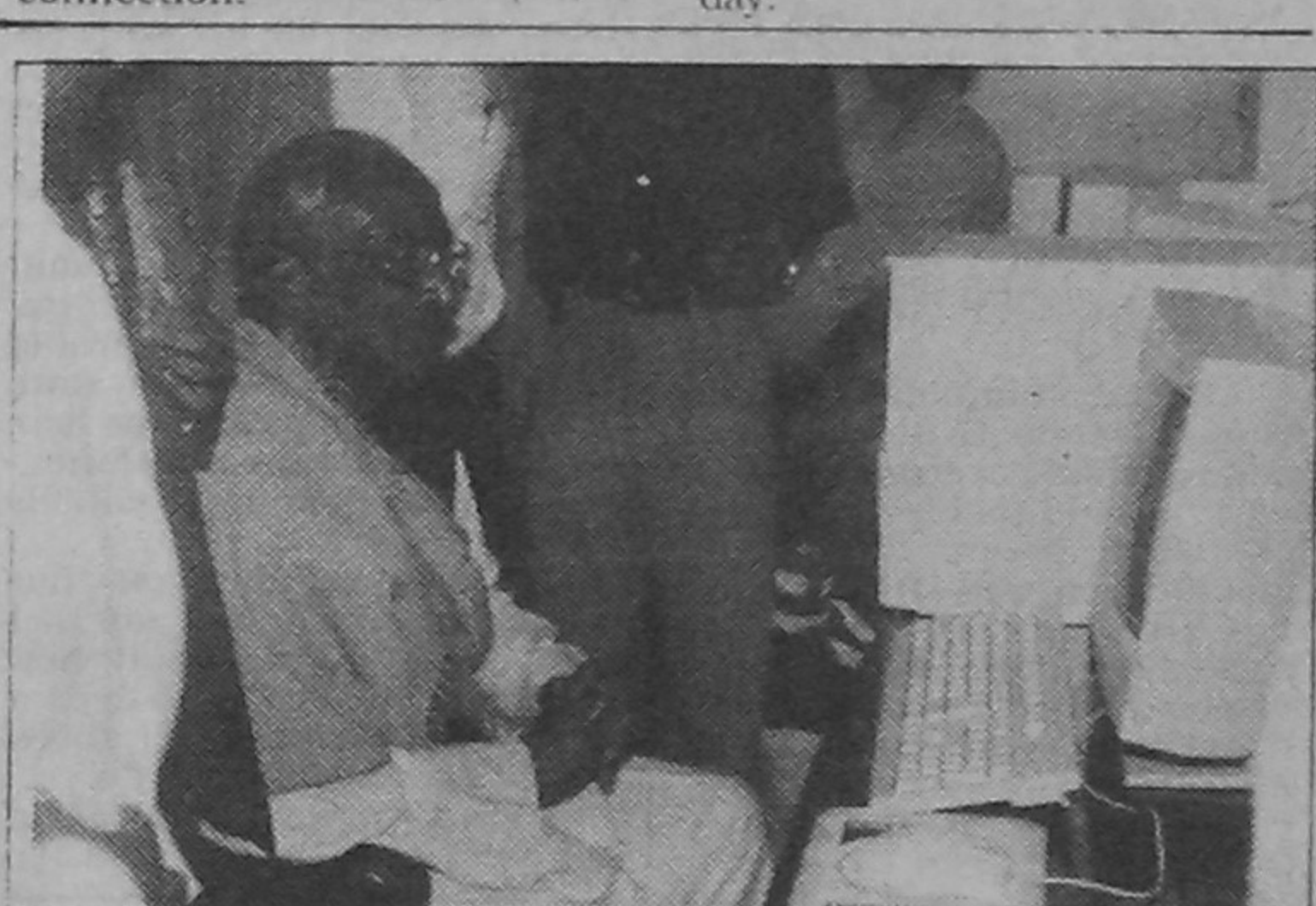
Old man stabbed to death in Sirajganj

From Our Correspondent SIRAJGANJ, Jan 3: An old man was stabbed to death on Saturday at Jamua village under Sadar thana.

The victim was identified as Jaher Ali, 60. Police sources said a gang of miscreants numbering about eight raided the house of the victim and stabbed him repeatedly, killing him on the spot.

Neighbours attributed the murder to land dispute.

Police recovered the body and sent it to hospital for autopsy. A case was filed in this connection.



Former Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman MP viewing a computer programme following inauguration of a computer institute recently in Moulvibazar.

— Star photo

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Dhaka City Corporation
 Project Implementation Unit
 Dhaka Urban Transport Project
 Level-14, Nagar Bhaban, Dhaka

আপনার পরিবেশ সুন্দর ও পরিচ্ছন্ন রাখুন
 আপনার শিক্বে টিকা দিন

Notification
Pre-qualification of Flood Damaged Repair Works
 Due to unavoidable circumstances it is hereby notify that the pre-qualification process of Flood Damage Repair Works has hereby cancelled. This is issued with the approval of the competent authority.

Project Director
 Project Implementation Unit
 Dhaka Urban Transport Project
 Dhaka City Corporation

GD-12
 DCC/PRD/248/1999-2000

ঢাকা সিটি কর্পোরেশন
 নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর দপ্তর
 অফিস-৯

আপনার পরিবেশ সুন্দর ও পরিচ্ছন্ন রাখুন
 আপনার শিক্বে টিকা দিন

সংশোধনী টেন্ডার নোটিশ
 স্মারক নং-১৪২১/প্রকৌ/অ-১০(৬)/৯৯-২০০০ এ আস্থানকৃত দরপত্র গ্রহণের তারিখ ০৬-১২-৯৯ইং এর স্থলে ২৭-১২-৯৯ইং তারিখ এবং ২৭-১২-৯৯ইং তারিখের স্থলে ০৩-০১-২০০০ইং তারিখে নির্ধারিত ছিল। অনিবার্য কারণবশতঃ ০৩-০১-২০০০ইং এর স্থলে আগামী ১৩-০১-২০০০ইং তারিখে দরপত্র গ্রহণ করা হইবে। নোটিশের অন্যান্য সকল শর্তাবলী এবং সময় অপরিবর্তিত থাকিবে।

মফিজ উদ্দিন আহমদ
 নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী
 অফিস-৯
 ডিসিপি/প্‌আরডি/২৪৭/১৯৯৯-২০০০
 জিডি-১৩

ঢাকা সিটি কর্পোরেশন।

মংলা বন্দর কর্তৃপক্ষ
 মংলা, বাগেরহাট
বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বিষয়ঃ মংলা বন্দর কর্তৃপক্ষ ১৭/২/২০০০ তারিখ হইতে পরবর্তী ২ (দুই) বৎসরের জন্য আইন উপদেষ্টা নিয়োগ/প্যানেলভুক্তির দরখাস্ত আহ্বান

মংলা বন্দর কর্তৃপক্ষের বিভিন্ন মামলা মোকদ্দমা পরিচালনা ও আইনগত মতামত প্রদানের জন্য নিম্নে উল্লেখিত আদালত/স্থানের জন্য আইন উপদেষ্টা নিয়োগ/প্যানেলভুক্তির নিমিত্তে ইচ্ছুক আইনজীবীদের নিকট হইতে সাদা কাগজে দরখাস্ত আহ্বান করা যাইতেছে।

ক্রমিক নং	স্থান	সংখ্যা	যোগ্যতা
১।	ঢাকাস্থ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট ও হাইকোর্টসহ ২ (দুই) জন। অন্যান্য সকল নিম্ন আদালত	২	শৌজদারী/দেওয়ানী আদালতে মামলা পরিচালনা কার্যে ন্যূনতম ১০ বৎসরের অভিজ্ঞতাসহ বিএ/এমএ, এলএলবি
২।	খুলনা জেলার সকল আদালত (প্রম ৩ (তিন) জন। আদালতসহ)	৫	
৩।	বাগেরহাট জেলার সকল আদালত	২ (দুই) জন	৫
৪।	যশোর	২ (দুই) জন	৫

শর্তাবলী

১। এই নিয়োগ ২ (দুই) বৎসরের জন্য বলবৎ থাকিবে।
 ২। নিয়োগপ্রাপ্ত/প্যানেলভুক্ত আইনজীবীগণ আদালতে মামলা দায়ের ও পরিচালনার এবং আইনগত পরামর্শ প্রদানের জন্য কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক ধার্যকৃত হারে ফি পাইবেন।
 ৩। আইনজীবীগণ যে স্থানের জন্য নিয়োগ গ্রার্থী সেই স্থানে তাহার নিজস্ব সেরেস্তা থাকিতে হইবে এবং কর্তৃপক্ষের প্রয়োজনে সমঝোতার ভিত্তিতে উপরে বর্ণিত যে কোন স্থানের যে কোন আদালতে তাহাকে মামলা পরিচালনার জন্য সম্মত থাকিতে হইবে।
 ৪। আবেদনপত্রের সহিত গেজেটেড অফিসার/সংশ্লিষ্ট বার অফিসিয়াল কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত জাতীয়তা যোগ্যতা অভিজ্ঞতা ইত্যাদি সদনপত্রের সত্যায়িত অনুলিপি ও ৩ (তিন) কপি সদা তোলা পাসপোর্ট সাইজের ছবিসহ জীবন বৃত্তান্ত প্রেরণ করিতে হইবে।
 ৫। বন্দর কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক নিয়োগিত আইন উপদেষ্টাগণের ও প্যানেলভুক্তির জন্য আবেদন করিতে হইবে।
 ৬। আবেদন প্রেরণের শেষ তারিখ ২০/০১/২০০০ইং অফিস সময় পর্যন্ত।

মবক/বো/জস/অ/৬৬০
 জিডি-১১

মোঃ তাইয়্যুন্নুর রহমান
 পরিচালক (প্রশাসন)