



At the age of three typhoid took away Salam's sight. His blindness could only push the poverty stricken family of village Kachua in Saikupa thana under Jhenidah district, to send him for begging. But Salam resisted. He could be visually handicapped but his other organs could help him make a living. Soon he associated himself with a village singer and learnt to play a two-stringer (*Dotara*). At present Salam 21, starts his day early in the morning. He plays on his instrument and sings songs in the bazaars and busy places. His young cousin and another friend help him move around and they join in with other instruments during the performance. Salam lives with his mother who had long been abandoned by her husband. He said on a good day he earns up to 120 taka.

— Star photo by Delwar Kabir

# Chandpur telephone subscribers' woes

From Shirin Akhter

CHANDPUR, Feb 9: Telephone subscribers of Chandpur Natun Bazar and Puran Bazar town are suffering for a long time due to poor telephone service.

There are two telephone exchanges at Chandpur town. The telephone exchange at Natun Bazar is called Chandpur main exchange and the exchange at Puran Bazar town area is called Puran Bazar exchange. The Puran Bazar exchange was established in 1964 with a capacity of about 800 lines. The Puran Bazar exchange is now almost worn out and outdated. Of the two exchanges the worst sufferers are the subscribers of Puran Bazar.

The telephones of Puran Bazar are found in disarray. Cross connections, wrong numbers and very low sound are the constant problems. It is very difficult to get a local connection from Puran Bazar to Natun Bazar town.

The subscribers of Puran Bazar exchange are mostly businessmen. They have to depend on telephones to contact in other business centres of the country and outside the country. But due to continuous faults in telephones they are suffering badly in their day to day business affairs.

Sometimes subscribers get connections outside the country by paying money illegally to the staffers of the telephone office.

Chandpur exchange was established in 1986 with a capacity of 600 lines. Subsequently 800 lines were added to Chandpur exchange. The telephone subscribers of Chandpur exchange has also been facing untold difficulties due to faulty telecommunication system and malpractices in the telephone department.

Chandpur will be brought under digital system, it was announced earlier. But the scheme is yet to be implemented.

It may be mentioned here that the telephone system was first introduced in private sector in Chandpur during the 2nd World War in 1939. But it is yet to be modernised.

Telephone officials at Chandpur and Puran Bazar exchanges are also suffering due to absence of accommodation and shortage of staffers.

Md Jahangir Akhand Selim, President, Chandpur Chamber of Commerce and Industries complained that he tried to bring the matter to the higher authority several times, but no step has yet been taken in this regard.

The subscribers complained that they are getting telephone bills from Comilla office. Sometimes bills are found excess in rate and sometimes false calls are found in the bills.

The complainants submit their complaints in Comilla office. Comilla office sometimes over look the complaints.

## News snaps

### 109 patients regain eye sight

MUNSHIGANJ, Feb 9: A total of 109 patients regained their eye sight following successful operations at an eye camp at Kewar Miabari Primary School premises here last week, reports UNB.

Dr Mahfuzur Rahman and Dr Bahauddin Ahmed conducted the eye operations at the camp set up by Shapla Juba Sangha in collaboration with Bangladesh National Association for the blind, Deputy Commissioner of Munshiganj Mohammad Nurul Haq inaugurated the seven-day eye camp on January 30 where at least 1,200 eye patients were also treated. All the patients were treated free of cost and they were also provided with medicines, foods, accommodation and black glasses.

### Uplift projects implemented

NETRAKONA, Feb 9: A total of 135 development projects were executed in different areas of Kendua thana under Netrakona district during the last fiscal year at a cost of Taka 65 lakh, reports BSS.

An official source said, the Local Government and Engineering Department (LGED) Kendua supervised the works of the development projects taken under Annual Development Programme (ADP) of the government. The ADP projects covered agriculture and irrigation, communication and education sectors.

### Boro cultivation in Sherpur

SHERPUR, Feb 9: Agriculture Extension Department (AED), Sherpur has taken up Boro cultivation programme this year, reports BSS.

At least, 61 thousand hectares will be brought under this programme. Of the total, 1,950 hectares will be cultivated by local variety and the rest will be cultivated by high yielding variety.

### Cub-camporee-2000 opens

BRAHMANBARIA, Feb 9: Zila Cub Camporee 2000 was opened at the playground of Sarail Annada High School recently, reports BSS.

The chief guest of the ceremony and the president of the Zila Scout Deputy Commissioner Lutful Rahman inaugurated the ceremony. The ceremony was presided over by the Sarail Upazila Nirbahi Officer Punneyabrata Chowdhury while the special guest was Deputy Commissioner Lutful Rahman. It was addressed, among others, by Scout Secretary Abdul Jalil, President of Upazila Cub-Camporee Abdul Wahab Master, General Secretary Habibur Rahman, Zila Awami League President Advocate Syed Serajul Islam, Civil Surgeon Syed Manuar Ali, Assemblage Chief Shahina Akter, Programme Chief Shariq Ahmed Kamal, Zila Primary Education Officer Abdul Kader, Awami League Leader Advocate Abdul Samad, Principal Abdul Ahad Bhuiyan and others.

### Free clinic

SATKHIRA, Feb 9: Rotary and Rotaract Club of Satkhira will organise a free heart clinic for poor cardiac patients on March 5, 6 and 7 at Reshlip Development Projects Auditorium, Binerpota, Satkhira, reports BSS.

Dr Shuvo Dutta, Senior Consultant Cardiologist of BM Birla Heart Research Centre, Calcutta will conduct the heart clinic. Forms for registration can be obtained from the following places from February 20-27. Patients desirous of consulting the doctors should fill up the forms and submit these to the offices from where they obtained them. — Dr Woazed Ali — Nahar Pathology, Polashpol, Satkhira and Dr Tony Krishna Paul — Retina Diagnostic centre, Khulna Road crossing Satkhira.

### Sluice gate opens

COMILLA, Feb 9: Sluice gate of Sonacharya Irrigation Project was opened for Boro cultivation at Katak Bazar in Sadar Thana, on the bank of river Gumti on Saturday, reports BSS.

Abu Hena Mustafa Kamal, MP, opened the sluice gate as the chief guest. Chairman of Kotawali Thana Cooperative Societies, M Serajul Hoque presided over the inaugural functions. Secretary of the Cooperative Societies Abdul Malek spoke on the occasion. About 12 thousand hectares in Kotwali, Laksam and Chowdagram thanas will get irrigation facilities for Boro cultivation and about six thousand farmers will be benefited by the Sonacharya Irrigation Project.

### Valuables looted

JHENIDAH, Feb 9: Valuables worth over Tk one lakh were looted in a bus dacoity here on Jhenidah-Kushtia road on Monday night, reports UNB.

Police and witnesses said when the Jhenidah-bound bus from Kushtia reached Chokhipara, 7/8 bandits boarded the bus in the guise of passengers. They suddenly overpowered the driver and took control of the steering of the bus. They beat the passengers indiscriminately and looted their belongings along the 20-km road while no patrol police was seen. Passengers alleged, The bandits later forced the passengers and the driver to get down at Amtala, four kms off the town and after driving the bus for another two kms they got down near the Jhenidah Cadet College and fled away. Later the passengers complained to the Sadar thana police who visited the place of occurrence. A case was filed with the police.

### Arrests with Phensedyl syrup

MADARIPUR, Feb 9: Madaripur sadar police seized here four bottles of Indian made Phensedyl syrup and arrested two alleged drug traffickers recently, reports BSS.

A team of sadar thana police, acting on a tip off, raided the house of Begum in Noava Chor area and recovered the bottles. Police arrested Begum and Shully from the area and a case was filed in this connection.

### Four arrested with arms

DACOP, Khulna, Feb 9: Dacop thana police arrested four pirates including a woman and recovered three foreign firearms and 91 rounds of bullets from Khulna city on February 3, police sources said, reports BSS.

Acting on a tip off, Police Super of Khulna Ataul Gani Badsha and OC of Dacop Thana Abdul Kader Beg with a team of police arrested one person named Shahabuddin from Shahin Hotel of the city and Monirul Shorob Hossain near the Shilpa Bank Bhaban and a woman named Olsha was arrested from village Nalian of Dacop Thana. Recovered arms are: one three not three Rifle, two foreign guns and 91 rounds of bullets.

### Pry school dropouts up

COMILLA, Feb 9: Though the government attaches priority to primary education, 20 per cent children here are being deprived of elementary education, reports UNB.

According to officials, there are 1,334 government and 765 non-government primary schools here with some 8 lakh students. A large number of children in Burichang, Brahmanpara, Muradnagar, Daudkandi and Homna thanas do not go to school simply because of poverty. Meanwhile, Kindergarten schools are gaining popularity in the district as the standard of education in government primary schools continues to fall day by day.

### Family feud kills man

COX'S BAZAR, Feb 9: A man was killed at a village in Ramu thana on Sunday, reports UNB.

Abdus Salam, 40, is believed to have been punched to death by the hired goons of his in-law's family over a family feud. A case was filed.

### Textbooks distribution

PANCHAGARH, Feb 9: The District Primary Education Department distributed 1,06,253 sets of textbook free of cost among the primary school students, reports BSS.

According to officials sources, class-wise breakup of the books — class one 29,913 sets, class two 30,202 sets, class three 15,988 sets, class four 15,331 sets and class five 14,819 sets. The book distribution programme will continue till February.

### Workshop

KHULNA, Feb 9: A day-long technical workshop on value added products held recently at the conference room of Bangladesh Frozen Foods Exporters' Association (BFFEA), Khulna with the assistance of ATDP/IFDC/USAID which was inaugurated by Kazi Shanawaz, President of BFFEA, reports BSS.

A Khaleque Sarker, convener BFFEA, Mofazzel Hossain, deputy director, FICQ, Rezaul Karim, district fisheries officer, Shaiful Islam, ATDP representative spoke on the occasion. Quality control personnel of 19 fish processing industries attended the workshop. James P Ostergard read the keynote paper. Sarker Atiur Rahman, adviser of the association arranged the total programmes.

# IRRI-Boro farming target may not be achieved in Jamalpur

From Our Correspondent

JAMALPUR, Feb 9: The target of IRRI-Boro cultivation this season in the district may not be achieved as farmers face a lot of problems, including frequent power failure and shortages of high yielding varieties of seeds.

Frequent power failure is hampering the irrigation. Farmers said power failure has become a regular feature in different parts of the district.

The farmers face acute shortage HYV seeds in the district, casting an adverse impact on the cultivation. Farmers said they purchase seeds at abnormally high prices from markets.

High prices of chemical fertilisers are also frustrating poor and marginal farmers to bring lands under IRRI-Boro cultivation.

Disbursement of the special

agricultural loans has not been satisfactory so far in the district, farmers said. We face various bureaucratic hassle in banks when approach there for agriculture loans, they added.

According to an official source, a massive programme has been taken up in the district this season to bring about 91,000 hectares of land under IRRI-Boro cultivation.

Our Satkhira correspondent adds: An ambitious target has been fixed to bring 298,589 hectares of land under IRRI-Boro paddy cultivation this season in ten districts of Khulna division.

The Agricultural Extension Department (AED) has fixed the target to produce 744, 152 metric tons of paddy.

According to district-wise break-up, 42,917 hectares of

land will be brought under the cultivation to produce 111,290 metric tons of paddy in Satkhira, 9,460 hectares of land to produce 28,440 metric tons of paddy in Khulna, 15,021 hectares of land to produce 33,442 metric tons in Bagerhat, 89,526 hectares of land to produce 22,1567 metric tons in Jessore, 55,803 hectares of land to produce 150,941 metric tons of paddy in Jhenidah, 22,875 hectares of land to produce 52,688 metric tons in Magura, 10,460 hectares of land to produce 25,081 metric tons in Narail, 18,972 hectares of land to produce 48,430 metric tons of paddy in Kushtia, 12,975 hectares of land to produce 25,840 metric tons of paddy in Meherpur and 18,980 hectares of land to produce 48,435 metric tons of paddy in Chuadanga.

# Bad days for Magura weavers

From Hossain Seraj



A weaver couple of Ujgram village in Magura district engaged in preparing a traditional towel (*gamchha*).

MAGURA, Feb 9: Here is the tale of some struggling weaver families of Ujgram who are facing manifold problems now.

They are playing an important role in fulfilling the demand of traditional towel called '*gamchha*' throughout

the country. At Ujgram village of Shaikhlika thana under Magura district there are 14 weaver families. Local elderly people said these weaver families are engaged in their profession for over 200 years.

Despite shortage of capital, cotton and dye, they are still engaged in their traditional profession for a long time.

While talking to this correspondent, Abdus Sattar an weaver of this area said that production cost of a traditional towel (*gamchha*) is about Tk 25, whereas it is sold in the market at the rate of Tk 35 only. Moreover it is not possible to weave more than three pieces of such towel (*gamchha*) in a day. As a result now it is very difficult to maintain a family who are in this profession, he further informed.

They would be compelled to leave their traditional profession if proper patronisation of the government is not available, he added.

### Camp loot: 8 policemen suspended

RAJBARI, Feb 9: Eight policemen including incharge of Jowkura camp under Sadar thana were suspended for negligence of duty on Tuesday, reports UNB.

Arms and ammunition of the police camp were looted and two cops shot by armed terrorists Monday afternoon.

## Bangladesh Power Development Board Auction Notice

সময়মতো সঠিক বিদ্যুৎ বিল পরিশোধ করুন  
সরকারকে ফাঁকি দেয়ার প্রবণতা বন্ধ করুন

(A) Name of work: Auction sale useless (condemned) materials of Paribagh Depot of Civil Construction Division-1. (B) Eligibility of contractor: Bangladesh Power Development Board's enlisted contractors or bonafide auctioneer firm owners. (C) Amount of earnest money: Tk 5% (five per cent) on quoted rate to be deposited through Pay Order/Bank Draft from any scheduled bank in favour of "Deputy Director (Accounts), COAC, PDB, Dhaka. (D) Cost of purchasing tender: Tk 100/- (one hundred) only per sent (non-refundable), through Pay Order/Bank Draft from any scheduled bank in favour of "Deputy Director (Accounts), COAC, PDB, Dhaka. (E) Place of obtaining tender & last date of selling: From (1) Chief Engineer, Civil Works, PDB, Biddut Bhaban, 1-Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka-1000, (2) Director, Civil Works, PDB, 80 Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212 & (3) Manager, Pubali Bank Ltd, Shantinagar Branch, Dhaka during office hours on 23-02-2000. (F) Date & time of receiving & opening tender: 24-02-2000 up to 12.00 Noon & to be opened on the same day at 12.30 PM. (G) Time limit for completion of work: 5 (five) days.

Executive Engineer

Civil Construction Division  
PDB, Siddheswari Circular  
Road, Dhaka-1217.



## Invitation for Bids

রাত-১১টা থেকে ভোর ৬টার মধ্যে সেচ পাশপ চালনা

- Bangladesh Power Development Board has decided to Overhaul Unit-3 (150 MW) of Ashuganj Power Station on turnkey basis under financing from Japan Debt Relief Grant Assistance Fund (DRGA).
- The Bangladesh Power Development Board now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders capable to offer goods and services from OECD member countries and all developing countries for the Overhauling of Unit-3 of Ashuganj Power Station on turnkey basis including the inspection, dismantling, repair, assembling, design, manufacture of required spares, consumable etc, supply and transportation to designated sites in Bangladesh, any required civil/structural work, erection, painting, completion, modification, overhaul, testing, commissioning up to provisional acceptance, training of operation and maintenance personnel and guarantee services during a 18 (eighteen) months guarantee period and final acceptance for the following packages:  
Package "A"- Turbo-Generator & their auxiliaries including related I & C (Instrument & Control) and electrical equipment  
Package "B"- Boiler and its auxiliaries including related I & C (Instrument & Control)
- The prospective eligible bidders may quote for both the packages in a single proposal or separately for package "A" or for package "B".
- All works shall be completed within a time period of 15(fifteen) months after effective date of contract.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the office of the Chief Engineer, Ashuganj Power Station Complex, Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria, Bangladesh.
- A complete set of bidding documents will be available for purchase by any interested eligible bidder for package "A" and package "B" with effect from 10-2-2000 on the submission of a written application to the Director, Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9th floor), Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka, Bangladesh and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Tk 20,000/- (Taka twenty thousand) only for each package in the form of Pay Order/Demand Draft favouring the Director, Purchase, BPDB, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- Interested bidders may visit the aforesaid Power Station. Before visiting Power Station the bidder shall obtain necessary government permission.
- Two-envelope bidding procedure will be followed. One envelope marked "Technical Proposal" will consist of Technical Bid only without any reference to price and the other envelope marked "Financial Proposal" will consist of "Financial Bid".
- Both Technical Proposal and Financial Proposal must be delivered to:  
The Secretary  
Bangladesh Power Development Board  
Motijheel Commercial Area  
Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh,  
not later than 11:00 AM local time on 14-3-2000. The Technical Proposal will be opened immediately thereafter in presence of the bidders' representative, if any.
- The Technical Proposal must be accompanied by a bid bond of the sum not less than US\$ 250,000 (US dollar two hundred fifty thousand) for single package or US \$ 500,000 (US dollar five hundred thousand) for both packages in a single bid only in the form of an irrevocable and unconditional bank guarantee issued by any scheduled bank of Bangladesh or by a foreign bank duly endorsed by a scheduled bank in Bangladesh payable in favour of the Secretary, BPDB.

Md Seraj Uddullah  
Secretary  
Bangladesh Power Development Board  
Dhaka, Bangladesh  
Fax: 880-2-9564765

Biddut/Jana-1219(5)/99-2000  
GD-121

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Ministry of Science & Technology  
Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka  
No. MST/S-4/Equipment-4(16)/99/71  
Dated: 19-10-1406/01-02-2000  
**TENDER NOTICE**  
Sealed tenders are invited from bonafide manufacturer/supplier firms for purchase of imported foreign superior quality tax machine for use of the Ministry of Science & Technology. Tender schedule can be purchased against payment of Tk 100/- (one hundred) only per set up to office hours on 24-02-2000 from office of the Senior Assistant Secretary of the Ministry (Sec-4) Room No. 917, Bldg No. 6, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka. Tender should be dropped in the tender box kept at the chamber of the Deputy Secretary of this Ministry (Room No. 918) by 3-00 PM of 27-02-2000. The tenders received will be opened on the same day at 3-15 PM in presence (if any) of the tenders.  
2. It may be noted here that the authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.  
Md Muhibul Hossain  
Senior Assistant Secretary  
Phone No. 8612439  
DFF-2505-3/2  
G-231

Rajshahi All Party Action Council formed  
From Our Correspondent  
RAJSHAHI, Feb 9: Rajshahi City and district units of Sarbadaliya Sangram Parishad (All Party Action Council) comprising leaders of four-party alliance and different professional groups were announced on Tuesday.  
BNP central organising secretary and Rajshahi City Corporation Mayor Mijanur Rahman Minu and BNP district unit general secretary Advocate Quamrul Munir were made convenors of the city and district units respectively.  
Advocate Ekhlaique Hossain, city BNP president, Advocate Abdul Hadi, city Jatiya Party president, Ataur Rahman, city Amir of Jamaat-e-Islami and Mufti Khallidur Rahman, city unit joint convener of Islami Oikya Jote were made joint convenors and Prof Tasnim Alam, city Jamaat general secretary was elected member-secretary of the APAC city unit.

অর্থক্ষণ আদালত, আইন ১৯৯০ এর ৫ক ধারা  
বিধান মোতাবেক বিবাদীদের প্রতি নোটিশ  
মোকাম নারায়ণগঞ্জ অর্থক্ষণ আদালত  
অর্থক্ষণ বন্ধকী-৬৯/৯৯  
জনতা ব্যাংক, পাগলা বাজার শাখা, থানা ফতুল্লা, জেলা-নারায়ণগঞ্জ  
.....বাদী  
বনাম  
১। মোঃ নূরুল হক ওরফে নজরু পিতামৃত-আবদুল সতিফ, মালিক-মেসার্স এনএইচ শিপিং লাইনস, সাং-ডিএন রোড, চান্দমাহ, মুসীখোলা, পোঃ ফরিদাবাদ, থানা-কোনা, জেলা-ঢাকা।  
২। মোসাদ্দ হাজেরা খাতুন, পতিমৃত-আবুল হাশেম বেপারী,  
৩। সহিদুল হক,  
৪। হামিদুল হক,  
৫। নাজিমুল হক,  
৬। আমিনুল হক,  
৭। জহিরুল হক,  
৮। হাসিনা বেগম,  
৯। নাসিমা বেগম,  
১০। রোকিয়া বেগম, সর্বপিতামৃত-আবুল হাশেম বেপারী, সর্বসাং ও পোঃ দোশেম্বর, থানা-কোরানীগঞ্জ, জেলা-ঢাকা  
.....বিবাদীগণ  
বন্ধকী কার্যক্রমে পাতনা টাকা আদায়ের নাগিশ।  
তায়াদ= ২৪,৭২,৮৬৪/০০ টাকা।  
যেহেতু, বাদী ব্যাংকের পাতনা ২৪,৭২,৮৬৪/= টাকা এবং মোকদ্দমা চলাকালীন সময়ে ও উক্ত টাকা সম্পূর্ণ আদায় না হওয়া পর্যন্ত শতকরা ২০% হারে সুদ পাওয়ার দাবীতে বিবাদীগণ বিরুদ্ধে অব মোকদ্দমা আনয়ন করিয়াছে এবং,  
যেহেতু, আপনাদের প্রতি আদালতের নেবারত-এর মাধ্যমে এবং রেজিস্ট্রি ডাকযোগে সমন দেওয়া সত্ত্বেও আপনারা সমনজারী এড়াইয়া যাইবার ফলে মোকদ্দমার বিচার কার্য বিলম্বিত হইতেছে। সে মতে আপনাদিগকে অব নোটিশ দ্বারা জ্ঞাত করানো যাইতেছে যে, বাদী ব্যাংকের উক্ত দাবীর বিরুদ্ধে আপনাদের কোন জবাব থাকিলে উহা আগামী ২৪/২/২০০০ইং তারিখে সকাল ১০ ঘটিকার সময় আদালতে হাজির হইয়া দাখিল করিবেন। অন্যথায় মোকদ্দমার একত্ররফা সুনানী গ্রহণ করা হইবে।  
আদেশক্রমে  
সেক্রেটারী  
জিডি-১২২  
অর্থক্ষণ আদালত, নারায়ণগঞ্জ।