

## PM's call to students Uphold values, dignity of pen, paper

BARISAL, June 24: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has called upon the students to uphold the values and dignity of the pen and paper she handed over to the students, reports UNB.

She was talking to the newly-elected office-bearers and members of Barisal BM College and Barisal Medical College, who met her at her Sangsad Bhaban office in Dhaka on June 22. Bangladesh Chhatra League won in full panel of the student union elections of these two prestigious institutions.

The Prime Minister said, "We want to see that the future leadership of the nation is vested on educated and talented people."

She reminded the students that their main task is to devote themselves to studies. She said,

in order to survive in the tough competition of the 21st century, there is no alternative to technological knowledge and advancement. An uneducated leadership is a curse for any nation, Hasina said.

The Prime Minister urged the Chhatra League leaders and workers to supplement her government's programme to free the country from the curse of illiteracy. She also advised them to take up constructive programmes and said the organisation that is guided by ideology and justice can make significant contribution in building up the nation.

Jatiya Sangsad Chief Whip Abul Hasnat Abdullah, Sultan Mohammad Mansur, MP, and Chhatra League central leader Balaram Poddar were present during the meeting.

## Metric system still not introduced!

From Our Correspondent  
GOPALGANJ, June 24: Metric system, the system of measurement that uses meters, grammes and litres, has not been introduced in rural areas of Kasiani, Muktadpur and Kotlipara upazilas of the district, although the government made it compulsory in 1982 through an ordinance to use the system.

Traders in the areas still use the traditional method. During a recent visit to Ramdia, Fukra, Paranpur and Chaptia Bazaar under Kasiani upazila, Jalipur, Banogram, Batiakamari and Ujani under Muktadpur upazila and Ghogor, Radhoganj and Shikar Bazar under Kotlipara upazila this correspondent found vendors were using the traditional method of set and mound.

Beside, many vendors use brick chips as weights in violation government rules.

## Freedom fighter breaks fast unto death

From Our Correspondent  
FARIDPUR, June 24: Freedom fighter Abdul Gafur, 55, at last broke his fast unto death on June 10 after two days' strike.

Gafur along his wife and two children started hunger strike on Faridpur Press Club premises to protest against the attack on his house at Rathkhola in the town. A group of unidentified hoodlums attacked the freedom fighter's dwelling house.

The freedom fighter broke his fast in presence of Faridpur municipality chairman Hasibul Hasan Lablu, Additional District Magistrate Abdus Samad, freedom fighter Nur-mohammad Babul and Faridpur Press Club president Syed Inamul Azam.

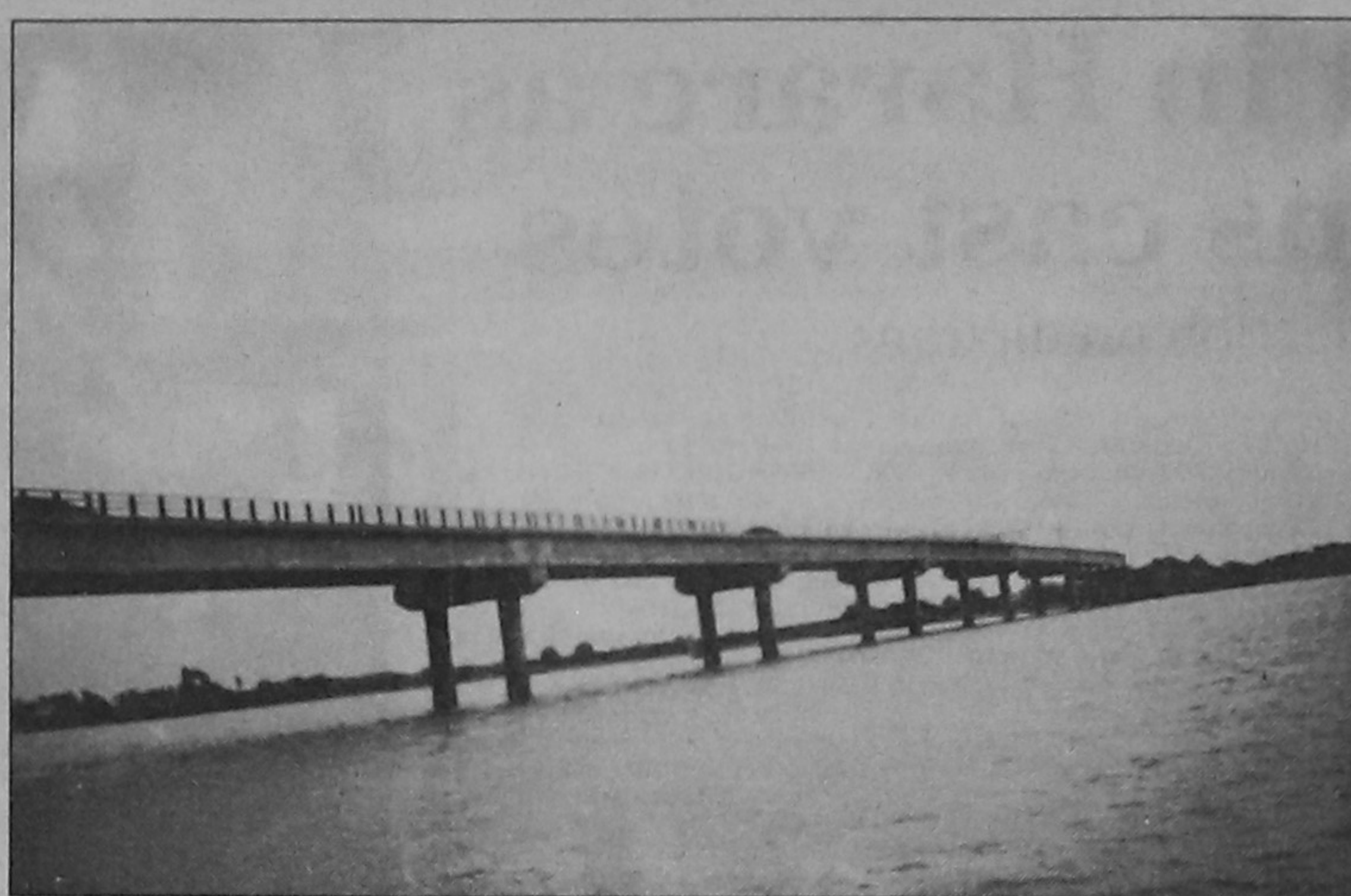
There is an Air Conditioning (AC) machine at this department which is running at least two hours a day in the department. The use of this machine is wastage of power. The conscious people urged the authorities concerned for posting of the doctors.

## Netrakona blacksmiths pass hard days

NETRAKONA, June 24: Some 10,000 blacksmiths here are passing hard days mainly due to dearth of capital.

Besides, they are facing problems in absence of marketing facilities. They are forced to sell their goods below production cost.

Over the years prices of raw materials have increased, the prices of their products have not increased accordingly, making it difficult for the blacksmiths to stick to the profession.



Works on the Taka Five-crore Karotoa Bridge Project near Shahjadpur town remain stopped for the last one year due to unknown reasons. On completion of the bridge the distance between Sirajganj-Shahjadpur and other southern districts with Bangabandhu Jamuna Bridge will be shortened by 25 kilometres. — Star photo

## Country boatmen facing threat of unemployment

By Staff Correspondent

They said these boats, which add speed by setting irrigation pump machines, ply in the rivers Bakhal, Matamuhuri, Naaf and their tributaries and canals across the district. But the engine-driven boat in not safe enough for carrying passengers or goods in absence of proper control system in its direction and speed.

Our Netrakona correspondent says: The engine-driven boats are ferrying passengers in Atpara, Madan, Mohongonj, Khallajuri and Kalmakanda thanas replacing the traditional ones. Under the circumstances, the traditional boatmen are losing their daily income required for maintaining their family.

Journey by engine boat is more comfortable and less time consuming in comparison to the hazardous traditional boat journey. Hence people prefer engine boat for their journey from one place to another.

The traditional boatmen have urged the government to extend soft-term loan facilities to them to convert their traditional boats to mechanised ones.

## Reception to SSC talents

From Akhteruzzaman Bablu

SIRAJGANJ, June 24: A civic reception was accorded to three meritorious students of Sirajganj for their outstanding results in this year's SSC examinations under Dhaka and Rajshahi boards.

Presided over by M A Musa, former principal of Sirajganj Islamia College, the three-hour long reception was accorded to Sabnam Jerin Lita, Shusil Kumar Das and Md Moniruzzaman Rajib on Tuesday at Fazal Bipi Kendra, a local commercial centre.

Sabnam Jerin Lita topped the list in the combined merit list of Science group in the SSC examination from Dhaka Board this year. According to her, she scored 946 marks with distinctions in nine subjects, the highest marks among all the examinees of all the boards in the country.

Lita who hails from Hosainpur Moholla in Sirajganj town, appeared in the examination from Mymensingh Girls' Cadet College. Leaving the local Saleha Ishaque Government Girls' High School in 1997 she got herself admitted in the aforementioned cadet college in 1998. She expressed her gratitude to the people of her birth place - Sirajganj town for according such a warm reception to her.

Lita whose aim in life is to become a computer engineer said that she had been overwhelmed after receiving a bouquet from them. She also revealed that Gulshan Ara, her mother and all of her teachers inspired her most for her brilliant result which she attained after studying for 12 hours daily. About her hobby she said that she enjoys much witnessing cricket matches during her leisure period. She is a pious girl who performs *namaz* five times every day. She is also a regular holy Quran reciter, she said. She got prepared for such a brilliant result from the very beginning of her school life.

Shusil Kumar Das stood eighth in the merit list of Commerce group securing 826 marks with distinctions in six subjects. Son of a poor cobbler Motilal Das who lost his home in Jamuna erosion Shusil appeared from Tara Kandi High School under Kaziupur upazila. He could appear in the examination because of the help from Khalilur Rahman, headmaster and all other teachers of his school. He studied hard for 12 hours each day. He said that he would remain evergrateful to him who extended his hands for his help.

It is worth mentioning that his elder brother Paltu Ram Das stood 18 in the SSC examination in 1997 from the same board. Both of them sought generous help from the Prime Minister, Home Minister and local MPs.

Md Moniruzzaman Rajib secured the seventh place in the merit list in Business Studies group from Rajshahi Board. He secured 827 marks with distinctions in five subjects. She said that she disliked politics in student life. She seeks blessings from all.

Among others, BNP leader Abul Hossain, Awami League leader M A Rouf Pata, general secretary of the local businessmen's association Anisur Rahman, Jatiyotabadi Chhatra Dal leaders Saidur Rahman Bacchu, Ersadur Rahman Niru and Mostafa Lelin spoke on the occasion.

Cement is now selling at Tk 275 to Tk 285 a bag weighing 50 kg in the markets against Tk 235 to Tk 240 a few days ago.

With the increase of price of cement, construction works in both private and public sectors have been facing setback.

As many construction works are suspended, a large number of day labourers, especially masons and their assistants, are out of employment here.

Advocate Shahadat Hossain, president of Feni unit of FEMA, read out the suggestions. Secretary of Feni unit of FEMA Ziauddin Salim, Akter Hossain Chowdhury and Tipu Sultan were also present on the occasion.

Advocate

From Our Correspondent

FENI, June 24: An advocacy programme organised by Fair Election Monitoring Alliance (FEMA) was held here recently.

The programme was organised to create awareness in favour of FEMA suggested reforms of electoral law.

Advocate

Benazir Ahmed, Head Master of Magura Government High School has been adjudged the Best Headmaster in Magura district for the year 1999. In the picture, the successful headmaster receiving a crest from Faruk Ahmed Khan, Additional Deputy Commissioner (General) at a function in Magura recently.

— Star photo

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— Star photo

## News snaps

### Decomposed body recovered

KISHOREGANJ, June 24: Kishoreganj thana police recovered an unknown decomposed body of a young man from the Narsunda river last week, reports BSS.

The police source said the victim might be killed by strangulation. After recovery the body was set to the local hospital morgue for autopsy.

### Pipegun recovered

SHARIATPUR, June 24: A contingent of Bhedarganj thana police, acting on a tip-off, raided village Koneshwar recently and recovered a pipe-gun in an abandoned condition from the house of Selam Sikder, reports BSS.

OC Akram Ali led the police contingent during the raid. None was arrested in this connection.

### Vegetables cultivation

SATKHIRA, June 24: A total of 3,400 hectares has been brought under vegetables cultivation with a production target of 42,500 tonnes in seven upazilas in the current dry season, according to Agriculture Extension Department (AED) sources, reports BSS.

Of the total land, 1,200 hectares have been brought under cultivation in Satkhira sadar, 350 hectares in Kalaroa, 900 hectares in Tala, 100 hectares in Debhata, 550 hectares in Gollaganj, 100 hectares in Assassuni and 200 hectares in Shyamnagar. The vegetables to be cultivated include brinjal, sweet pumpkin, lady's finger, etc.

### Youth beaten to death

LALMONIRHAT, June 24: A man allegedly beat his nephew to death in a clash at Barabari in sadar upazila early on Monday, reports UNB.

Villagers said Alam, 22, was killed by his uncle Hamid Master over a land dispute. Outraged by the incident, a section of villagers later damaged the house of Hamid Master. In another incident, police recovered the unclad body of a 24-year-old unidentified woman from Bhatbari in Aditmari upazila on the day. The ill-fated woman was suspected to have been killed by miscreants after rape.

### Price-hike demanded

THAKURGAON, June 24: A meeting of sugarcane growers was held on Thursday at the Training Complex of Thakurgaon Sugar Mills, reports BSS.

The meeting was presided over by M Yunus Ali, President, Sugarcane Growers' Welfare Association. Amjad Hossain and M Ruhul Amin, President and General Secretary respectively of the Sugarcane Growers Association, Baharur Alam, Managing Director and Nurul Islam GM (Agril), respectively of Thakurgaon Sugar Mills, M Mafizuddin Ahmed, Vice-President and Abdur Rahman, Joint Secretary of Thakurgaon Sugar Mills Employees Union spoke in the meeting. The meeting, in a resolution, demanded the price of sugarcane be raised from Taka 37 to Taka 47 per mound for the increased production of sugarcane as well as sugar and to compete with the prices of other crops.



Risky road: Langalbandh-Magura road which runs via Sreepur is one of the important roads in Jhenidah and Magura districts. The road became unfit for traffic movement long ago. Though the road was repaired earlier, but it did not last due to faulty work. Photo shows a bus which is plying on the road at risk at village Goyaspur in Magura district.

— Star photo by Delwar Kabir

### Undertrial prisoner dies

BOGRA, June 24: An under-trial prisoner, who was undergoing treatment in police custody at Mohammad Ali Hospital, died on Friday, reports UNB.

Police said Mostafizur alias Mosta Hujur, 45, who had been suffering from liver-cirrhosis, was admitted to the hospital on June 8. Mostafizur, a top terror was caught red-handed along with a revolver in March 1999, police said.

### Body recovered

SHARIATPUR, June 24: The body of a 30-year-old widow was recovered from a canal in Bhedarganj thana on Wednesday, reports UNB.

Police said a group of unidentified miscreants called the young woman of Kapaspara village in Naria thana out of her house on Tuesday and killed her in a desolate spot after gang rape. The body was sent to hospital morgue for autopsy.

### Housewife commits suicide

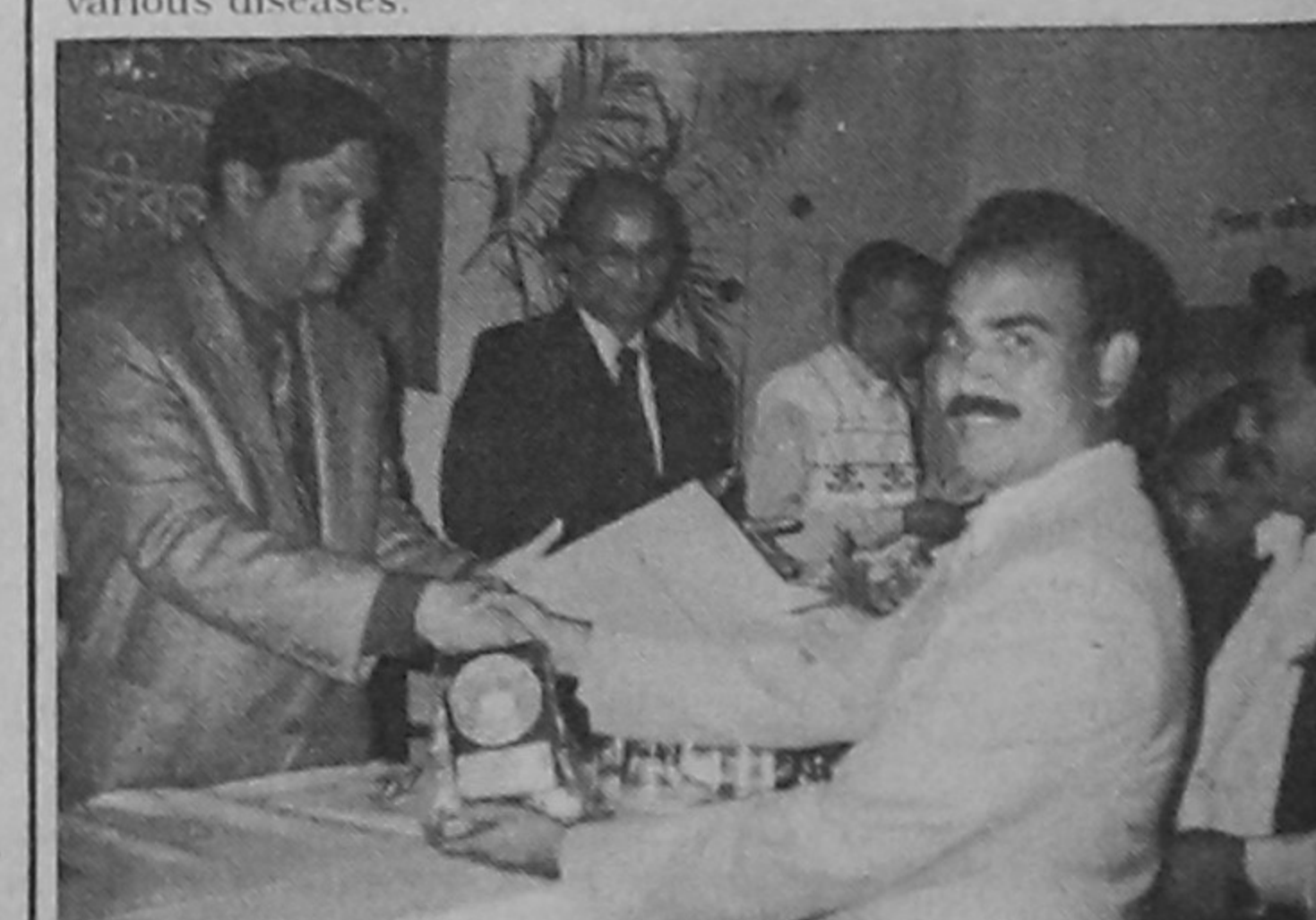
BARGUNA, June 24: A housewife allegedly committed suicide at village Ruhita in Patharghata upazila on Wednesday following a family feud, reports UNB.

Haova, 20, daughter of Abdul Gani of same village, killed herself by taking poison as her husband Saghir wanted to divorce her, family sources said. A UD case was filed with Patharghata police.

### Child labourers increasing

NARSINGDI, June 24: The number of child and woman labourers is gradually increasing in the different areas of especially in the town areas, reports BSS.

The poor children and women have been compelled to engage themselves for earning living for their family members. It is learnt from reliable sources that about 10,000 children and women labourers out of the total population 17 lakh are engaged in different jobs. Most of the children and woman labourers are working in the restaurants, hotels, brick-fields, jute mills, garages, workshops, earth digging, fishing boats, fishing markets, agriculture sector, as rickshaw-pullers, newspaper hawkers and domestic helps. The child and woman labourers work for more than 10 hours daily. In exchange they earn only Taka 20 to 30 to support their families. Women labourers are deprived of proper diet and medicare and have been suffering from various diseases.



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— Star photo

## Academy for Planning and Development Sonargaon Road, Nilkhet, Dhaka-1205.

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This course has 10 well-knitted modules. Each module will be completed in 24 training sessions over a period of 13 working days. The session will be held in a well equipped air-conditioned room of the Academy from 5.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. Experienced teachers of the university, high executives of the government, highly professional trainers and NGO professionals will give lectures as guest speakers. Course fee Tk. 12,000/- (Twelve thousand), required to be paid at cash or by cheque to the Academy at the time of registration. Participants will get a certificate on Diploma in Development Planning only on successful completion of all the ten modules.

Minimum educational qualification for admission is a Bachelor's Degree with honours in any subject or two years experienced in a executive post with Bachelor's Degree. Academy Cafeteria & Dormitory facility will be available on payment.

Interested persons are requested to apply in prescribed form provided by the Academy. The last date for submission of completed form is 20th July, 2000. The Academy reserves the right to reject admission without showing any reason.

For further details and collection of prescribed application form on payment of Tk. 50/- (fifty) only, please contact with Mr. Mirza Nurul Islam, Accounts Officer, Phone : 8614705-6 from 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. on all working days. However, the Academy can send this form if any applicant sends self-addressed stamped envelop containing postal order of Tk. 50/- (fifty) in the name of the Principal, APD, Sonargaon Road, Nilkhet, Dhaka-1205.

Principal (in-charge)  
Tel: 8611574

## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Executive Engineer

Barisal Public Works Division, Barisal

### Tender Notice

No E/M-41 1999-2000

Tenders in BD Form No 2911 in sealed envelopes are hereby invited separately from special first class/combined first class/class I, contractors enlisted with Public Works Department, class II electrical/mechanical/contractors firm enlisted with Public Works Zone, Khulna having ABC/BC supervisory licences for the undermentioned work. Tenders can be submitted till 12:00 noon on 4/7/2000 in all the offices as shown in Serial No 5. Tenders will be received the day of submitting tender at 12:15 pm in presence of the interested tenderers and name of work, name of contractor's establishment and address to whom the tender is to be submitted will have to be mentioned on envelope.

- Name of work : Installation and repairing of paying bed, paying cabin, and bed head lights, calling bell and electrical power lines in different wards of Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College and Hospital.
- Estimated cost : Taka 4,22,000/=
- Earnest money : Taka 8,445/=
- Time limit for completion of work : 90 (ninety) days.
- Name of offices for selling and receiving tender : All divisions under Public Works Circle, Barisal.
- Last date of selling tender : 3/7/2000 (till office hours)
- Date of receiving tender : 4/7/2000 (till 12:00 noon)

Ready tender schedule with Bangladesh Form No 2911 and additional terms and conditions can be seen and can be purchased on payment of usual fees for Taka 400/- (four hundred) only for each tender and Taka 25/- (twenty-five only) for BD Form No 2911 non-refundable in both cases from all the offices as shown in Serial No-5 during office hours. Contractor/Managing Director of the contractor's firm himself or appointed representative authorised by his/her letter and the signature of whom has been attested by the contractor/managing director of the contractor's establishment by producing original enlistment register, VAT registration certificate and TIN certificate. Otherwise no tender will be sold. Cashiers of each division will sell by properly examining the photo of original copy of enlistment and signature, VAT registration certificate, TIN certificate. He will be personally responsible for exception to it.

Tenderer must submit the original money receipt for purchasing tender, attested copy of Value Added Tax registration certificate and attested copy of TIN certificate regarding payment of income tax. Otherwise tenders will be treated as rejected.

Any attestation should be done by class I gazetted official. If more than one lowest tenderer is found in the tender then in order to select 1 (One) contractor a lottery will be held on 11/7/2000 at 11:00 am in the office room of the undersigned. All or his/her nominated representatives are requested to remain present in the said lottery.

Md Abdul Ghani  
Executive Engineer  
Barisal Public Works Division Barisal  
Phone No-52143

DFP 15365-18/6  
G-1212