

# Total arable *khas* land is 1,58,916 acres: JS told

The total arable *khas* land in the country is 1,58,916.67 acres of which 42,030.88 acres have already been distributed among 89,638 poor families including freedom fighters till April this year, reports BSS.

This was disclosed by State Minister for Forest and Environment HN Ashiqur Rahman while replying to a supplementary question raised by Segutia Yasmeen (Women seat 21) in the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday.

Earlier, the state minister in reply to a question from Shahjahan Khan of Awami League (Madaripur) raised by Abdul Latif Mirza of Awami League (Sirajganj) said the total arable *khas* land in the Madaripur district was 948.58 acres.

Ashiqur Rahman, who was replying in absence of the State

Minister for Land Alhaj Rashed Mosharruf, in reply to another question from Begum Shahin Monwara Huq (Women seat 7) said the amount of arable *khas* land in Naogaon district was 20,553.58 acres.

On supplementaries from Emdadul Huq Bhuiyan, Prof Panna Kaiser and Mostafizur Rahman — all from Treasury Bench — Rahman said the present government would distribute the *khas* land among the deserving people under certain rules and regulations.

**500 posts of gynaecologists created**

Health and Family Welfare Minister Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim yesterday said the gov-

ernment has created 500 new posts of gynaecologists to provide health treatment to the gynaec. patients, reports BSS.

Making a statement on a private member's resolution moved by Treasury Bench member Md Wajuddin Khan (Pabna-3), the minister said the government is implementing Taka 13,500 crore programme for the overall improvement of the country's health sector.

Treasury bench members Abdul Latif Mirza (Sirajganj-4), ABM Abul Quasem (Chittagong-2), Shamsur Rahman Sharif (Pabna-4), Kazi Serajul Islam (Faridpur-1), Begum Shahin Monwara Huq (Women Seat-7), Rainul Haq (Rajshahi-5) and Meher Afroze Chumki (Women Seat-20) spoke while moving their amendments

## Metropolitan

### Controversial appointment JU relieves two lecturers

By JU Correspondent

The Jahangirnagar University (JU) authorities have relieved two lecturers of department of Botany of their posts who were enrolled under former Vice Chancellor's controversial adhoc appointments last year.

The two teachers — Pinaki Sinha and Fakhruddin Ali Ahmad — who were appointed on October 12 last year, were released from their jobs with effect from July 1, official sources said.

They were released as per the condition No. 3 of their appointment which said that the VC could release them whenever he wished.

Former Vice Chancellor Prof Alauddin Ahmed came under severe criticism for his decision regarding the appointing eight lecturers, including these two, under adhoc basis during a period when the university was closed *sine die* last year.

Condemning the appointments, a number of JU teachers protested for making those appointments unilaterally. They submitted a memorandum to the university VC demanding cancellation of those appointments last year.

Though the then pro-VC and present VC Prof Abdul Bayes criticised the adhoc appointments last year, they could not release these teachers from their jobs as they had been appointed by the former VC.

Although the eight teachers' job contract was for six months, the university authorities had extended their appointments saying that they would continue up to the time regular teacher-selection against their posts are completed.

The two released teachers at-

tended an interview for appointment of lecturer for Botany department on June 24 where the lecturer selection board, headed by VC Prof Abdul Bayes, said none of 13 are eligible.

### JU classes resume tomorrow

By JU Correspondent

Classes at Jahangirnagar University (JU) will resume tomorrow after a month long vacation.

The classes at the university were suspended from June 7 to June 15 for the admission tests into first year honours classes under the academic session 1999-2000, and from June 15 to July 6 for the annual summer vacation. Final year examinations scheduled during this period were however held as usual, official sources said.

### Bidyut Khan's Sarod recital today

Bidyut Khan, a grandson of Ustad Alauddin Khan and Ustad Ayet Ali Khan, will play on Sarod at the Indian High Commission Cultural Centre at Dhanmondi in the city this evening, reports BSS.

During the performance, Arup Dey in *Tabla* will accompany Khan, son of Ustad Bahadur Ali Khan.

Mitali, the Calcutta-based Indo-Bangladesh Cultural Society organised the cultural show in collaboration with the Indian High Commission.

### OUR GRATITUDE

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to the colleagues, friends and well-wishers of the late Mr. K.M. Ejazul Huq (Emran) as well as to our relatives who stood by us in our moments of greatest sorrow. Your solace and support greatly helped us to bear the irreparable loss of a beloved husband, a caring father and an affectionate brother. We seek your continued prayers for his departed soul and for us so we may have the strength to carry on with our lives

Nusrat Huq and Children,  
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