

A BNP bastion in Barisal under AL threat?

AROOP TALUKDAR, Barisal

Barisal-5 (sadar) constituency has become the centre of hot discussion among the political workers and the common people alike in Barisal. This is because Chief Whip Abul Hasanat Abdullah is almost sure to contest from here as AL candidate.

This constituency remained under control of BNP for long 27 years. After 1973 no Awami League candidate won the seat.

In the by-election of 1998 which was held after the death of former president's son BNP lawmaker Dr Nasim Biswas, BNP candidate Majbar Rahman Sarwar won the by-election by defeating Mahiuddin Ahmed, Barisal district AL president

with a wide margin of over 10,000 votes.

Earlier, in 1991 also after electing the then MP Abul Rahman Biswas as president this constituency fell vacant where Majbar Rahman Sarwar was the elected MP of BNP in the by-election.

But this year Awami League (AL) will try its best to regain the seat. Now circumstances seem to be different as Abul Hasanat Abdullah, Chief Whip in the parliament (Jatiya Sangsad) and Secretary of Barisal district Awami League is likely to contest in this constituency besides his original constituency Barisal-1 (Gournadi-Agailjhara). He was elected MP in 1996 parliamentary elections from this constituency.

However, it is still uncertain who will contest in this Barisal-5 constituency as the candidate of BNP or of the opposition alliance in the coming general election.

Former president Abul Rahman Biswas visited this constituency which is also his home last month. Some persons close to the Biswas family expressed their opinion that his son Jamal Biswas may contest from this constituency as a BNP candidate. Former president's recent tour, according to some sources, is the pre-election tour.

The existing BNP MP of this constituency M Majbar Rahman remains aloof from his constituency for a long time for various reasons. A case under Public Safety Act (PSA) is

still pending against him for allegedly injuring an ousted BNP leader in the town earlier.

In this circumstance people here are keen to observe some dramatic changes in Barisal-5 constituency in the coming parliamentary elections. Speculations are also there that Barrister Mainul Hossain of The Daily Ittefaq or Nurul Islam Manjoor may seek nomination to contest as BNP candidate from Barisal-5 constituency.

Awami League is set to win at least in 17 seats out of 23 seats in six southern districts under Barisal division in the coming parliamentary election.



PHOTO: A.K.M. MOHSIN

People cannot use this newly-built bridge at Kalma Bhara Kon village under Louhajong upazila of Munshiganj district because both ends of the bridge still remain disconnected with the road.

Woman meets tragic death

BSS, Munshiganj

A woman met a tragic death on Monday night when her saree got tangled with the propeller blades of an engine-driven passenger boat following collision of the boat with another mechanised boat in Dohuri canal in Munshiganj district.

The deceased was identified as Nurjahan Begum, 47, wife of Fazlur Rahman of Sambari in Lohajang. Police said the accident occurred when a Narayanganj-bound wheat-carrying engine boat collided with a passenger boat in the canal at Islampur in Tangibari at around 9pm. Nurjahan fell into the water and her saree got tangled with the propeller blades of the boat. She died on the spot.

The body was sent to Narayanganj hospital.

220 ruling party men sued in Sirajganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

Some 220 ruling party men including Awami League district unit general secretary Abu Yusuf Surja and Sirajganj Municipality Chairman Abu Mohammad Golam Kibria were sued under PSA on Tuesday in connection with a series of clashes between the government

and opposition supporters in Shahid Minar area in Sirajganj town.

At least 100 people were injured during hartal on 31 March and 1st and 2nd April.

The clash ensued when anti-hartal activists led by ruling party-backed BCL leader Jewel attacked opposition activists.

Khulna Ajax Jute Mills on verge of collapse

300 workers left unemployed so far

UNB, Khulna

With the hands once Sheikh Hatem Ali Rustam operated machines at Khulna Ajax Jute Mills now cuts grass on its lawn.

Now at his 60s, Rustam is among hundreds of workers who have either been compelled to leave the mill or switched over to other odd jobs for survival as the debt-ridden mill is on the verge of collapse due to staggering losses.

Rustam said he has stopped sending his kids to school, as he cannot defray their education expenses. "I have not received my wages since 1996. Now I earn living by tailoring and agricultural works," he said with tears rolling down his pale face.

Set up on 67.23 acres of land in 1963 in Khulna city's Mirerdanga area, the factory went into operation in 1965 and steadily turned into a losing unit, making the lives of its workers miserable. It was making profit until 1980.

According to competent sources, the accumulated default loan of the mill now stands at Tk 20 crore while its arrears electricity bills crossed Tk one crore.

They said over 300 workers of the mill have so far been left unem-

ployed.

The mill was handed over to private owners by the then Ershad government and the mill management laid it off twice in 1992 and 1998 on the plea of raw material crisis and staggering losses. It was later reopened in the face of movement of its workers.

Talking to the news agency, many workers alleged that the mill authorities plundered Tk two crore from their provident funds and sold machinery worth over Tk 10 crore.

Shahjahan Talukder, a worker of the mill, lamented that the government handed over the mill to wrong people, who are now playing with their lives.

When asked, deputy general manager of the mill MN Shah said they were incurring a loss Tk 2000 per ton of jute due to rise in production cost. "We get back Tk six lakh spending Tk 7.25 lakh."

Blaming the government for its policy, the DGM said the factory has to buy jute at high prices, as the mill does not get loans in time.

Usually, the mill needs money in June-July period when jute is sold at Tk 250 per mound but "we have to buy it at Tk 530 after the season for lack of money."

All eyes on probable MP candidates in Faridpur

ABDUL MATIN FAKIR, Faridpur

With the possibility of early general election fading, enthusiasm generated among grassroots level political activists and common people in five constituencies in Faridpur district has disappeared to some extent, although speculation about the probable candidates is going around.

People are found gossiping in public places about the probable candidates of leading political parties and their prospects as well.

However, political leaders seeking respective party nominations for the upcoming parliamentary polls have started contacting party activists and voters.

In Faridpur 1 constituency, comprising Boalmari, Madhukhali and Alifadanga upazilas with 3,05,732 voters, Kazi Sirajul Islam of ruling Awami League is the incumbent MP. Besides Kazi Sirajul Islam, Abul Rouf Master, a former MP, Abul Rahman, a student leader, and Kabirul Alam Mao are other aspirants to the nomination.

Advocate Afsar Uddin and M

Nasir Uddin are seeking nomination from the main opposition BNP.

Shah Mohammad Abu Zafar, who is loyal to Nazim Rahman Manzur faction of Jatiya Party, is another probable candidate in the constituency. Zafar secured second position in 1996 election.

Habibur Rahman is the likely candidate from Jamaat-e-Islami.

When contacted, on condition of anonymity, a probable candidate belonging to one of opposition parties said if the four-party opposition alliance fields single candidate the equation will be changed in the constituency as elsewhere in other constituencies.

In Faridpur 2 constituency, likely candidates are BNP central leader and present MP KM Obaidur Rahman, who is now in Dhaka Central Jail in connection with his alleged involvement in November 3 Jail Killing Case, and Forest and Environment Minister Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, who finished second in the last polls. No other probable candidates from AL and BNP have emerged. Golam Rasul may get nomination from Jamaat.

The constituency is comprised of Nagarkanda and Shalsha upazilas with 2,05,436 voters.

Faridpur 3 constituency, comprising Sadar upazila with 2,41,173 voters, may witness battle between present MP Choudhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf of BNP and Awami League's Khondaker Mosharraf Hossain, who is also a close relative of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Besides, Modarres Ali of BNP and Imam Uddin Ahmed, ex-MP, and Hasibul Hasan Lavlu, chairman of Faridpur municipality, of Awami League are also lobbying for the coveted nominations.

Imran Hossain Chowdhury of Jatiya Party (Mizan-Manju) and M Mujahid of Jamaat are other probable candidates.

In Faridpur 4 constituency, composed of Sadarpur and Char Bhadrangan upazilas with 1,67,708 voters, Begum Saleha Mosharraf of Awami League is the present MP. She was elected in the by-polls following the death of her husband.

Besides Begum Saleha, Major (Rtd) Aslam Haider and Shahjahan Talukder of Awami League are other

major players.

Md Akmal Ibne Yusuf and Shahjada Mia, a renowned businessman, will seek nominations from BNP.

Zaker Party's Mostafa Ameer Faisal and Principal Azaharul Haque of Jatiya Party (Ershad) are other prospective candidates.

Jamaat's choice is its central leader Abdul Kader Mollah.

In Faridpur 5 constituency comprising Bhangra upazila with 1,56,756 voters, Kazi Abu Yusuf of Awami League is the present MP. Besides Kazi Abu Yusuf, his nephew Kazi Jafar Ullah, ASM Nurunnabi, Haider Ali and Shariar Rumi are seeking nomination from Awami League.

Advocate Sarwar Jan Mia, a former MP, Ali Ashraf and Kausar Rumi are eager to get BNP nomination.

Professor Shahed Ali will seek nomination from Jamaat.

According to district Election Office, a total of 10,76,805 voters—5,45,269 males and 5,31,536 females—will exercise their franchise in the upcoming parliamentary election in the district.

50 new small dams built in Bandarban

UNB, Bandarban

Government and non-government organisations have prepared several uplift schemes following specialists' suggestion for setting up water reservoirs by constructing dams for ensuring water supply, irrigation and pisciculture in Chittagong Hill Tracts.

Although these schemes have been sent to the higher authorities for approval, local organisations have already constructed 50 small dams in Bandarban district alone for preserving water. Forty more dams have been set up on private initiative.

Fisheries Department has created water bodies on 39,692 hectares of land in the district for pisciculture by constructing 24 dams in last four years.

Besides, construction of three dams was completed here under CHT Integrated Agriculture Development Scheme (CHIADS) while works on eight more are on. District Council built 12 dams and CHT Development Board 13 others in last four years.

According to a source in the

IGED, some donor organisations proposed a grant of Tk 36 crore to construct six rubber dams, but they turned down the proposal saying it unprofitable.

Another source, however, said that it is most profitable to construct a dam in the hilly areas. Some proposals on construction of dams and sluice gates were sent to the ministry for approval, the source added.

Executive Engineer of the CHTADS Uchaw Prue told that minimum Tk 3 lakh is needed to construct a rubber dam, but 18 to 20 water reservoirs could be created by the same amount, which is more profitable.

Through making water bodies on about five acres of land, 30-50 acres of land could be brought under irrigation facilities during the dry season, increasing the crop production.

On the other hand, four to five mts of fish could be produced from a water body on one acre of land, said a district fishery officer.

Apart from increasing crop, fish culture and ducks farming, the hilly areas will also be able to attract the tourists, opined the experts.

Road accidents claim 3 in Madaripur

UNB, Madaripur

Two children and an old man were killed in separate road accidents in Kalkini and Rajauri upazilas of Madaripur district recently.

Witnesses said Bojin, 8, son of Jagadish at Banar Char village, died on the spot when he was run over by a bus near Banar Char stand on Tekerhat-Gopalganj Road.

An unidentified 8-year old child was also run over by a BRTC bus near the Bhadrangan Bridge on Faridpur-Barisal Highway on April 4.

In yet another incident an unidentified old man falling from Kaokhali Dakkhin Bhaotali village died when a tempo hit him on Kalkini-Shashikar Road on April 1.

Another report from Kishoreganj

adds: A potato trader was killed and three others were injured in a road mishap at Jalua in Sadar upazila on Saturday.

Police and witnesses said the four traders of Tangail were going to Sylhet in a truck loaded with potato. But the vehicle skidded off the road and plunged into a roadside ditch at the point when the driver lost control over the steering injuring them seriously.

The injured Mannas, 32, Suruj Mia, 35, Amzad, 35 and Samiruddin, 40, were rushed to the Bajitpur Zahirul Islam Medical College Hospital where Mannas succumbed.

Separate cases were filed with the police.

Diarrhoea takes serious turn in Magura jail

UNB, Magura

Diarrhoea has broken out in an alarming proportion in the overcrowded Magura district jail affecting 50 prisoners in last two days till Wednesday, according to unofficial sources.

But officials put the affected prisoners by the waterborne disease at eight and attributed its outbreak to unhygienic atmosphere triggered by the sweeping hot spell.

They said necessary steps have been taken to fight the disease.



দি সিকিউরিটি প্রিন্টিং কর্পোরেশন

(বাংলাদেশ) লিঃ

গাজীপুর-১৭০৩।

সবুজ ও নীল কার্ড বোর্ড সরবরাহের

সংক্ষিপ্ত পুনঃ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

করপোরেশন কর্তৃক সবুজ ও নীল কার্ড বোর্ড ত্রয়ের জন্য সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে। মাল্যমালের স্পেসিফিকেশন/নিয়মাবলী/ শর্তাবলী সম্বলিত সিডিউল দি সিকিউরিটি প্রিন্টিং কর্পোরেশন (বাংলাদেশ) লিঃ এর গাজীপুর অফিসের অর্থ ও হিসাব উপ-বিভাগ এবং মানহাটিন টাওয়ার (৪র্থ তলা), ৮-৩, সিদ্ধেশ্বরী সার্কুলার রোড, ঢাকাতে লিখিতভাবে অফিস হতে বিকেল ২.০০ ঘটিকা হতে ৪.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত সকল অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে আগামী ১৫/৪/২০০১ ইং হতে ১৮/৪/২০০১ ইং পর্যন্ত প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিজস্ব প্যাডে দরপত্রের মাধ্যমে প্রতিবেদিত সিডিউল টাঃ ৩০০/- (টাকা তিনশত) মাত্রের বিনিময়ে (অফেরতযোগ্য) ক্রয় করা যাবে।

ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালকের বরাবরে গাজীপুর অফিস অথবা ঢাকাতে উপরে উল্লিখিত লিখিতভাবে অফিসে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আগামী ১৯/৪/২০০১ ইং বিকাল ৩ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত সরাসরি নির্ধারিত বাক্সে drop করা যাবে এবং পাশাপাশি ডাকযোগে কিংবা কুরিয়ার মারফতও নির্ধারিত সময়ের মধ্যে গাজীপুর অফিসে পৌঁছানো যাবে এবং পরবর্তী কার্যদিবসে বিকাল ২.০৫ ঘটিকার সময় দরপত্রাদানের সামনে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) প্রাপ্ত সকল দরপত্র গাজীপুর অফিসে ফোঁস করা হবে।

মোঃ মজিবুর রহমান আকন্দ

উপ-মহাব্যবস্থাপক (ক্রয়-বিক্রয়)

GD-324



Rajshahi University

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Dated: March 29, 2001

Applications are invited from Bangladeshi nationals for filling up 1(one) permanent and 2 (two) temporary posts of Lecturer in the Department of Public Administration.

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Candidates already in service must apply through proper channel. Incomplete applications will be rejected without reference.

Md Abdus Salam

Registrar

Rajshahi University

GD-327



রাজশাহী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং-৪/২০০১

১৩/০৩/২০০১

রাজশাহী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় ম্যানেজমেন্ট ইনফরমেশন সিস্টেম এর এগারিস্ট্যান্ট সিস্টেম এ্যানালিস্ট একটি স্থায়ী পদ পূরণের জন্য বাংলাদেশী নাগরিকদের নিকট হতে নিম্নলিখিত ক্ষমতা দরখাস্ত আহবান করা যাচ্ছে।

এগারিস্ট্যান্ট সিস্টেম এ্যানালিস্ট: বৈদ্যুতিক: ৭২০০-২৬০-১০,৮৪০/- ও অন্যান্য প্রচলিত তথ্যাদি। এগারিস্ট্যান্ট সিস্টেম এ্যানালিস্ট পদের যোগ্যতাঃ

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মোঃ আব্দুস সালাম

রেজিস্ট্রার

রাজশাহী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

জিডি-৩২৬



Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, Dhaka

Tender Notice

No. P&D/LP-1 (609.610.613&616)/2000-2001/D-1858(3) Dated 11-4-2001

Sealed tenders are invited from bonafide suppliers for supply of Multimedia Projector, Overhead Projector, PA System, Electronic Copyboard, PC, CD Writer, Hub, Laminating Machine and Toner.

Intending participants shall have to obtain permission for purchasing tender paper etc on application to the undersigned. Application must accompany T.I.N. certificate, trade licence and certificate of experience about concern works/supplies etc from reputed organisations. Tender paper and other terms and conditions will be available from the office of the undersigned on payment of Tk 500.00 (five hundred) (non-refundable) to the Sonali Bank, BUET Branch, Dhaka. Each tender must accompany a Bank Draft or Pay Order from nationalised bank amounting to 5 per cent of the quoted amount as earnest money deposited in favour of the "Comptroller, BUET" without which no tender will be considered. Tenders must be put into the tender boxes kept for this purpose in this office or offices of the Heads of the Department of Civil Engineering and Mechanical Engineering (Civil Engineering Building and EME Building respectively) up to 12-00 Noon of 25.04.2001 and will be opened on the same day at 12-30 PM before the participants presents.

The University authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders or one or more items of any tender without assigning any reason whatsoever.

No tender paper will be sold on the opening day of the tender.

Deputy Director

Planning and Development

GD-323

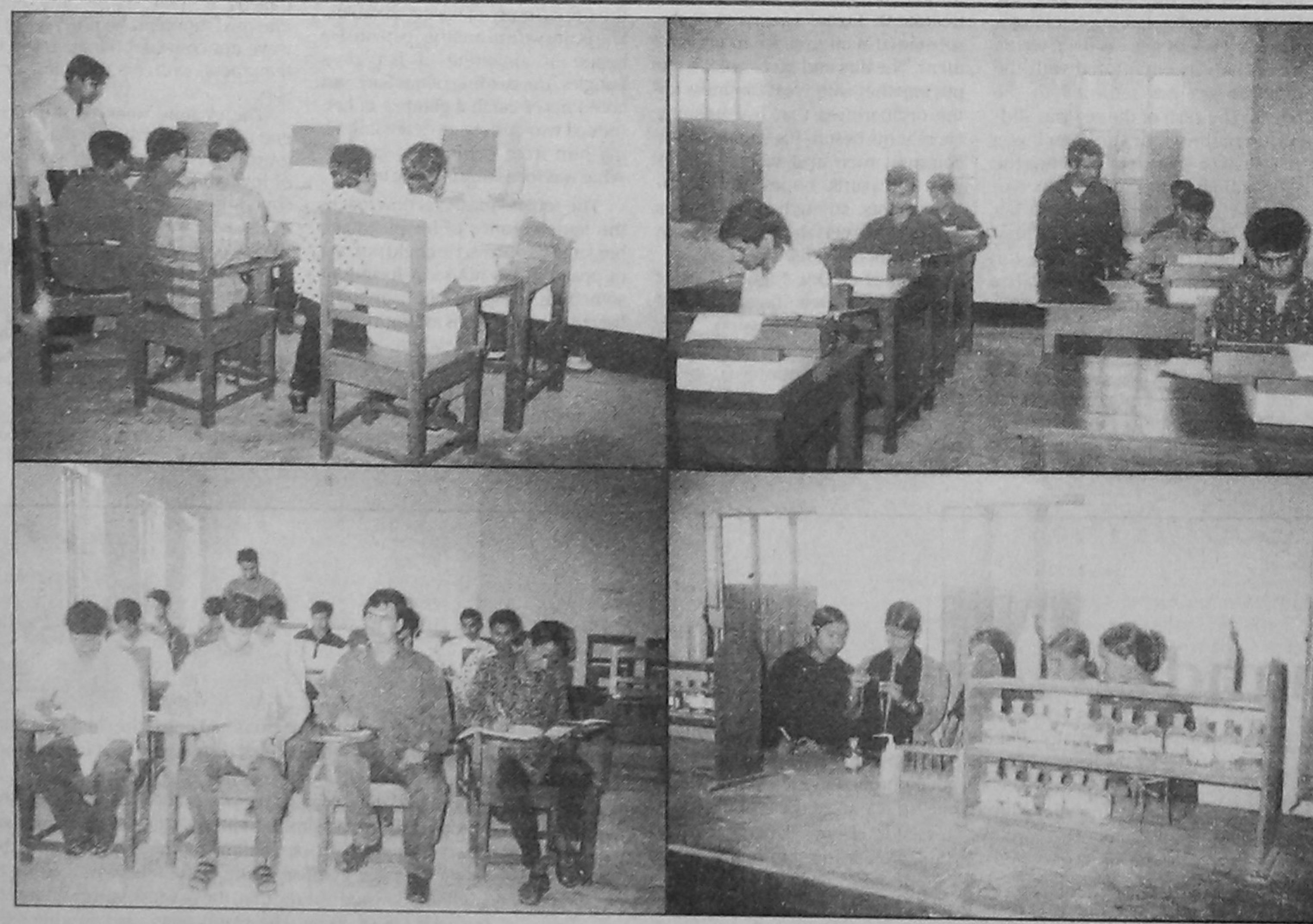


PHOTO: RAJAT KANTI GOSWAMI

Computer education has become so popular in Moulvibazar district that a college situated in a remote area like Rajnagar in the district has also introduced computer education programme for the students. Besides this, the college has already introduced the Secretarial Science course. (Top row from left to right) Students are seen operating computers in the Computer Laboratory of the college and students of Secretarial Science course learning the skill of typewriting. (Bottom row from left to right) Students of Business Management group of HSC class are seen attending the theory class on computer operation, while increasing number of female students are studying in Science course at HSC level. They are seen doing practical class in the Chemistry Laboratory of the college.