

# Experts suggest amendment to Poura Ordinance-77

**BSS, Dhaka**

An experts' committee yesterday submitted its report to the LGRD and Cooperatives Ministry giving sugges-tions for amendment to Pourasabha Ordinance-1977 aimed at strengthen-ing the local government body.

Other separate committees also submitted their reports to the ministry giving suggestions for improving financial management, strengthening financial capacity of the pourasabhas and reforming tax assessment and realisation procedure, an official handout said yesterday.

The reports were placed at a meeting of the Committee on Urban Local Government (CULG) at the LGRD and Cooperatives Ministry.

Chairman of the Committee LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan presided. State Minister Ziaul Hoque Zia was present.

Following a general discussion, the meeting formed several sub-committees for reviewing the reports and making recommendations to the government.

CULG has been formed under the ADB-financed City Management and Infrastructure Development Project.



PHOTO: STAR

Artistes sing song at the spring festival at the Shishu Academy in the city on Saturday. Jatiya Rabindra Sangeet Sammilan Parishad organ-ised the event.

## DIVERSIFIED JUTE PRODUCTS

# Project to develop entrepreneurship

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

The Project Executing Agency (PEA) and The National Centre for Jute Diversification (NCJD), India signed an agreement to implement a project titled 'Small scale entre-preneurship development in diver-sified jute products' in the city yesterday.

SK Das, executive director of NCJD, and Md Fazlul Huq of the PEA signed the agreement at the International Jute Study Group (IJSG) headquarters.

Financed by the Common Fund for Commodities, the Netherlands, the project involving 3 million US dollars will be implemented in Bangladesh and India in the next three years under the supervision of the IJSG.

The objectives of the project

are to transfer small-scale technol-ogy to produce jute-blended prod-ucts for home textiles, to develop a culture of entrepreneurship in rural areas and to offer technical and design support and market link-age, says a IJSG press release.

T Nanda Kumar, secretary general of IJSG, M Gulam Mustafa, chairman, Committee on Projects of the IJSG, and joint secretary, textile and jute ministry, Md Shams-ul Haque, chairman of the Private Sector Consultative Board of IJSG, Dr ABM Abdullah, executive director of Jute Diversification Promotion Centre, and Dr M Sahadad Hussain, direc-tor general of the Bangladesh Jute Research Institute, were present at the signing ceremony.

## TWO MURDER CASES

# Three to die in Narayanganj

**BSS, Narayanganj**

A Court here sentenced three persons to death and awarded punishment to two others in various terms in two sensational murder cases under Bandar and Narayanganj police stations.

According to a press release, Suja, 28, and Raja, 25, were sen-tenced to death and boatman Jalil, 35, was awarded six years impris-onment in sensational Anita murder case. The murder took place in

January, 2005 at Nabiganj Ferry Ghat on the river Shitalakhya.

In another case, Mamun Sheikh, 40, was sentenced to death and his wife Zayedda Begum awarded three years imprisonment and fined Tk 10,000 in the murder case of Hakim Bepari.

The murder took place at Masdair under Fatullah police station on February 9, 2003. District Judge Abul Mansur pronounced the judgement.

# Paper mills gutted in N'ganj fire

**BSS, Narayanganj**

Around 500 metric tons of paper pulp and other valuables were gutted in a mysterious fire that broke out in a paper mills at Tarabo under Rupganj Police Station in the early hours of yesterday.

According to fire service sources, the fire broke out at a

semi-pucca Israr Paper Mills, a sister concern of Sonali Paper and Bond Mills, at 4.00am.

Quoting the security staff, the sources said a group of robbers numbering eight to ten committed robbery in the mills and looted staff's clothes and valuables.

Before leaving, the robbers set fire to the mills, the sources added.

The flame quickly spread and gutted the paper pulp.

Firefighters from Demra and Narayanganj Fire Services extinguished the blaze after nearly eight hours.

The loss caused by the fire is being assessed.

The owner of the paper mills was not available for comment on the cause of the fire.