

NINE GOVT SCHOOLS

Parents, students worried as admission test nears

DWAIPAYAN BARUA

Anxiety and tension have gripped the parents and guardians as well as the students, with the beginning of admission process ahead of the new academic year at different schools in the port city.

Some changes have been made in the admission process this year to make it transparent at the secondary level at nine government high schools.

Besides, double shift will be introduced in five government schools to reduce the admission crisis, sources said.

With the increasing number of students day by day, competition for admission has become much harder as the nine schools have capacity to enroll only 2200 students a year.

Students are to face intense competition due to seat crisis while many of them go for special coaching under the guidance of different government school-teachers at a cost of a good amount of money to get

benefit in admission.

Headmaster of Chittagong Collegiate School Md Aziz Uddin said guardians are more responsible for such a coaching than the teachers since they (guardians) usually request them for the special coaching.

Aziz said around 600 students participated in such a coaching conducted by a teacher of his school last year when only 17 of them got chance to get admitted to his school.

In such a situation, Chittagong District Administration will prepare the question papers this year instead of the school authorities to make the admission process transparent.

Two admission schedules for the nine schools have been divided into two groups. No student will be able to take part in the admission test in two schools under the same group since the tests will be held the same day, they said.

The first group comprises of four schools including Chittagong Collegiate

School, Dr Khastagir Government Girls High School, Nasirabad Government Girls High School and Chittagong Government (Boys) High School.

Distribution of admission forms of the first group that started on December 13 will continue until December 27 and the last date for submitting forms is January 1, 2009. Admission test of class V and class VI will be held on January 4 and January 3 while admission test of class VIII and class IX will be held on January 5.

Government Muslim High School, Nasirabad Govt Boys High School, Bakalia Laboratory Government Boys High School, Government Mohsin High School and Chittagong Government City Girls High School are in the second group.

Distribution of admission forms for the second group started on December 13 and will continue until January 3 next year while the last date for submitting forms is January 5.

Admission test of class V, class VI and class IX will be held on January 10, January 8 and January 12.

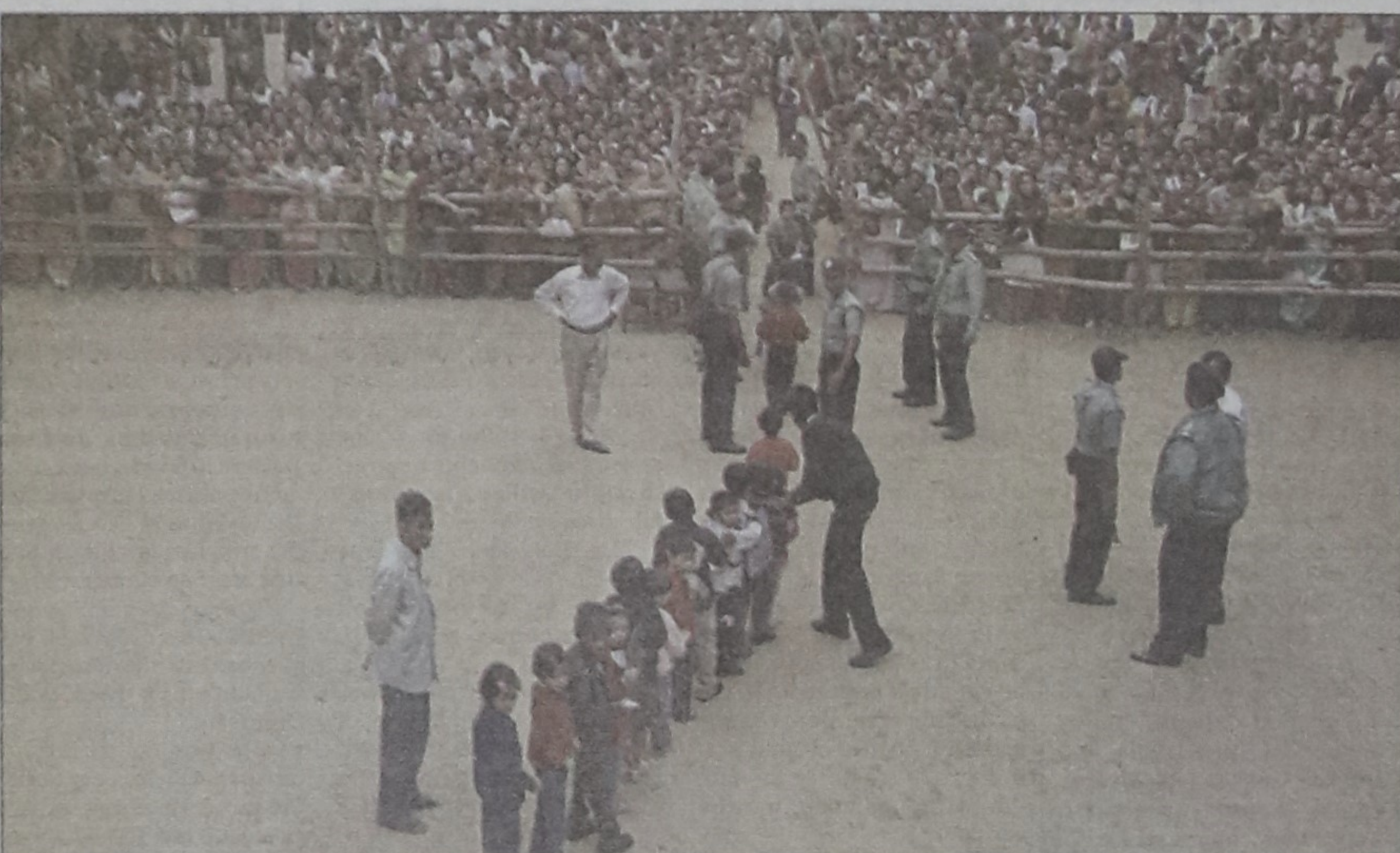
A magistrate will be included in the admission committee of each school to avert any irregularity in the result of the admission test.

Guardians would be allowed to see the answer scripts at any time if they want, said an official at the district administration.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ashraf Shamim said such initiatives would help to remove the suspicion of the guardians.

Meanwhile, double shift will be introduced at five government high schools to solve the admission crisis. The schools are Chittagong Govt (Boys) High School, Bakalia Laboratory High School, City Girls High School, Nasirabad Govt Girls High School and Government Mohsin High School.

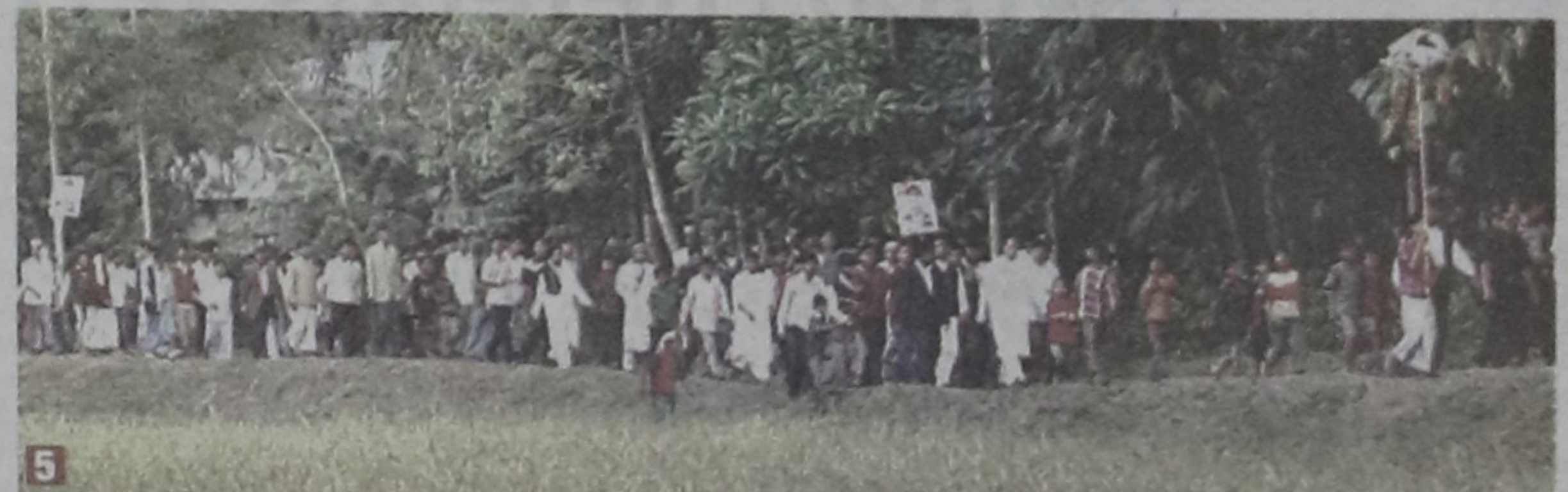
Education ministry approved the proposal for double shift in the schools on December 21, sources said.



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Guardians wait for their children during the admission test at Ispahani Public School and College on Friday. Around 2,056 children sat for the test against 100 seats this year.

Campaign for Dec 29 polls continues



ZOBIA HOSSAIN SKOER

Candidates of different political parties and independent candidates continue campaign seeking votes for December 29 elections. 1) Awami League candidate Dr Afsarul Amin for Chittagong 9 (Double Mooring) constituency takes out an election procession in Garibullah Shah Mazar area. 2) BNP candidate Abdullah Al Noman for Chittagong 9 (Double Mooring) seeks vote in Agrabad area. 3) Four-Party alliance candidate for Chittagong 10 (Bandar) seat Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury seeks vote in Goshaildanga area. 4) Grand Alliance candidate Nurul Islam BSC for Chittagong 8 (Kotwali) seeks vote in Gani Bakery area. 5) Grand Alliance candidate Sultanul Kabir seeks vote at a village in Banskhalia upazila. and 6) Supporters of Mahbulul Alam, independent candidate and BNP leader for Chittagong 7 (Chandgaon) seat, bring out an election procession in Kalurghat area.

theweekthatwas

Chittagong Academy AGM held

Social Scientist Prof Dr Anupam Sen said Chittagong Academy has been playing a vital role in upholding the culture, history and literature of Chittagong since its inception.

He said the academy has already published a number of research books, including life and works of Shyamsundar Boishnab and Shafai Ghosh and it would continue the initiative in future.

Dr Anupam, chairman of the Academy, was addressing the 8th annual general meeting (AGM) of the academy on its premises on Saturday.

Member Muhammad Nurul

Islam, Satyabrata Barua, Hossain Anwar, Dr SK Dev Sajal, Bipul Pal and Saifuddin Afser put up proposals while directors Principal Anwara Alam, Prof Rita Dutta, Dr Mohammad Rezaul Karim, Bipul Barua and Nesar Ahmed were present.

Call to vote out war criminals

Speakers at a press conference on Thursday called upon all to vote out the war criminals and their cohorts in the upcoming election in four constituencies under Chittagong.

They made the call at a press conference organised by the War Criminals and Anti-liberation Forces Resistance Committee, Chittagong chapter at Chittagong

Press Club (CPC).

Committee's Chief Coordinator Prof Dr Gazi Saleh Uddin said the people can't deviate themselves from the spirit and dream of the liberation war.

He said Bangladesh was born as a secular-democratic country at the cost of supreme sacrifice of three million freedom-loving people and around two lakh women.

He said the war criminals are contesting from Chittagong-2 (Fatikchhari), Chittagong-6 (Rangunia) and Chittagong-5 (Raozan) while a collaborator is vying for Chittagong-14 (Satkania-Lohagara) seat.

Former Pro-Vice Chancellor of Chittagong University Prof Dr Abu Yusuf, Peshajibi Samannaya Parishad President Prof Dr AQM

Sirajul Islam, Bangladesh Mahila Parishad Chittagong President Nurjahan Khan and Convenor of Muktiyoddha Smriti Pathagar Chittagong Kamrul Hasan Badal also spoke.

18 get Bank Asia scholarships

Bank Asia Limited awarded higher education scholarships to the talented students and held a customers' conference at Lohagara upazila in the district on Saturday.

On this occasion, Lohagara branch of the bank organised a programme where the bank Director and Mostafa Group Vice Chairman Mohammad Shafiq Uddin was present as the chief guest.

Deputy Managing Director SM Khorshed Alam and Senior Executive Vice President Erteza Reza Chowdhury were the special guests at the function with the bank President and Managing Director Syed Anisul Haque in the chair.

A total of 18 students received higher education scholarship from the Lohagara branch of the bank. The recipients of the scholarships are permanent residents of the area and students of renowned medical colleges, engineering and public universities.

Chittagong Regional Chief and Senior Executive Vice President Mohammad Rosangir, executive officers of corporate offices, and managers and assistant managers of all branches in Chittagong attended the programme.



Tea Traders' Assoc executives

Shantanu Biswas and MA Taher were elected president and vice president of Tea Traders' Association of Bangladesh for 2008-2010 on Thursday.

Ispahani Group of Industries Tea Department General Manager Shantanu Biswas and Sharif Tea House Proprietor MA Taher were elected unopposed.

Other office-bearers are Syed Hussain Pishnamaz, SM Salahuddin, Murtaza Ali, Shah Moinuddin Hasan and Sarwar M Yusuf from general buyer group, SS Iftekhar Ahmed, Bashirul Alam Chowdhury and M Naufel Karim Khan from general seller group, M Saiful Islam from broker group, Syed Alim Mansur from warehouse group and Anwar Pasha, Altafuddin Ahmed, Mohammad Amirul Islam and Nurul Karim from associate members group.

PDB realises arrears of Tk 3.06cr

The sales and distribution department of Power Development

Board's (PDB) Bakalia Subdivision realised outstanding arrears of Tk 3.06 crore in November from its 35 thousand consumers, says a press release.

"This is the highest collection in Bakalia, barring government and autonomous offices, since its inception as a separate subdivision in 2001," Mrinal Kanti Sen, executive engineer of Bakalia, said on Saturday.

He said Bakalia is one of the most densely-populated localities in the port city and the system loss here in the yester years was much higher than other areas.

He said power pilferage has reduced to a great extent following the joint efforts by PDB authorities and task force as well as mobile courts.

Artists of Drishti, Chittagong recite at a programme titled 'Tarun Voter Samabesh' (Gathering of young voters) at the open stage of DC Hill premises on Friday.

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Activists of Conscious Students Forum distribute leaflets urging people to vote out war criminals in the December 29 election from a stage styled 'Swadhinatar Mancha' on a truck.

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