

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG

# Terracotta pots of BC era found at Basu Bihar site

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

A huge number of potsherds of BC era have been found during the ongoing archaeological excavation at Basu Bihar site under Shibganj upazila in Bogra along with other artifacts, including an inscription, recently.

Archeologist Mahabub-Ul-Alam, a member of the dig team, said hundreds of potsherds of the ancient period along with other antiquities were found under a depth of 3.60 metres from the existing ground level.

"Another brick wall has been discovered almost in the same level under the earlier

discovered brick structures," he added.

Team leader archeologist Naheed Sultana presumed that an inscription on a potsherd of at least 1700 (300-400 century AD) years old has been found in the excavation.

"It is presumed that the recently discovered partial brick wall of 12 centimetres thick was built before the earlier discovered structures, ruined temples and monasteries which were visited by Chinese pilgrim Huen Tsang during his visit to ancient Bangla in between 639 AD and 645 AD," she added.

A decorated brick, stone and clay-made balls, clay

seals, more northern black polished ware (NBPW) and some other artefacts, including rare ritual pots, have been found after starting the excavation on November 24 last year.

Mahabub said, "The age of the potsherds are not clear to us right now, but we are confident that the potsherds were made before the birth of Christ (BC)."

Earlier, archeologists found many artefacts and huge number of bronze-made statues at Basu Bihar site, one of the most important archaeological sites in South Asia, during the excavations in the years between 1973 and 1976.

## 2 grenades found in Kurigram

A CORRESPONDENT, Kurigram

Two grenades were found from a bamboo-bush at Rajarhat upazila in Kurigram yesterday.

Police said the rusted grenades were found while some workers were cutting earth at Panthabari village.

Police recovered the grenades and informed the matter to explosive experts of army.

## ELECTION DEBACLE Comilla BNP president resigns

UNB, Comilla

District unit acting president of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) Advocate Abdus Sattar resigned yesterday, apparently in the wake of his party's debacle in Monday's parliamentary polls.

Sattar tendered his resignation to BNP team leader of Chittagong division Rabeya Chowdhury, citing health grounds.

BNP won only two seats out of 11 in the district in the December 29 election against its 11 seats in the 2001 general election.

## Course on medical tech launched

METRO DESK

Prof Dr MR Khan at the inaugural ceremony of Ahsania Mission Institute of Medical Technology (AMIMT) in the city yesterday said more than 10 thousand medical technologists are needed in the country, says a press release.

He further informed that against the demand 2500 doctors, 1300 nurses and 500 medical technologists are getting degrees from different institutions in the country every year.

To fulfill the need AMIMT launched a three-year diploma course in physiotherapy, laboratory medicine, and radiology and imaging from this year.

Dhaka Ahsania Mission President Kazi Rafiqul Alam, Ahsania Mission Cancer Hospital Managing Director M Fazlur Rahman, Prof KS Zaman and Brig Gen (ret'd) Dr Syed Fazle Rahim also spoke at the programme.

## President, CA greet Myanmar counterparts

BSS, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed yesterday congratulated his Myanmar counterpart Senior General Than Shwe, chairman of State Peace and Development Council, on the occasion of the Independence Day of Myanmar today.

In a message, the president said, "It gives me immense pleasure in conveying to your Excellency and through you to the people of Myanmar our warmest greetings and felicitations."

The president, in the message, said Bangladesh and Myanmar enjoy warm and cordial relations, which have development in depth and dimension over the years.

Iajuddin said, "I firmly believe that the excellent relations between our two friendly countries will be further strengthened and consolidated in the days to come."

Meanwhile, Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed yesterday congratulated his Myanmar counterpart Prime Minister General Thein Sein on the occasion of the Independence Day of Myanmar today.

In a message, the chief adviser said, "It is a great pleasure for me to extend, on behalf of the people of Bangladesh and on my own behalf, our warmest greetings and heartfelt felicitations to your Excellency and through you to the people of Myanmar."

Fakhruddin, in the message, said, "It is my firm conviction that the bonds of friendship that so happily exist between our two countries will be further strengthened in the future to the mutual benefit of our two peoples."

Both the president and the chief adviser wished good health, happiness and long life of their counterparts and continued peace, progress and prosperity of the friendly people of Myanmar.



Citizens' Rights Movement forms a human chain at Shahbagh intersection in the city yesterday protesting the Israeli air strike on Gaza Strip in Palestine.

# India welcomes Hasina's proposal for jt task force to fight terrorism

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

India's Congress-led UPA government and opposition BJP have welcomed Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina's statement that her government would not allow terror groups to operate from Bangladesh territory.

Talking to newsmen in Guwahati on Friday, Indian Home Minister Palaniappan Chidambaram said Hasina's remarks that she would not allow Bangladesh territory to be used as a launch pad for terrorism and her proposal for a joint task force to combat the menace were "positive".

"We hope we can make a new beginning and neutralise the leadership of banned Indian outfits who have found sanctuary in Bangladesh," he added.

Senior BJP leader L K Advani also hailed Hasina's statement and said cooperation between India and Bangladesh was not an

option but an "indispensable necessity".

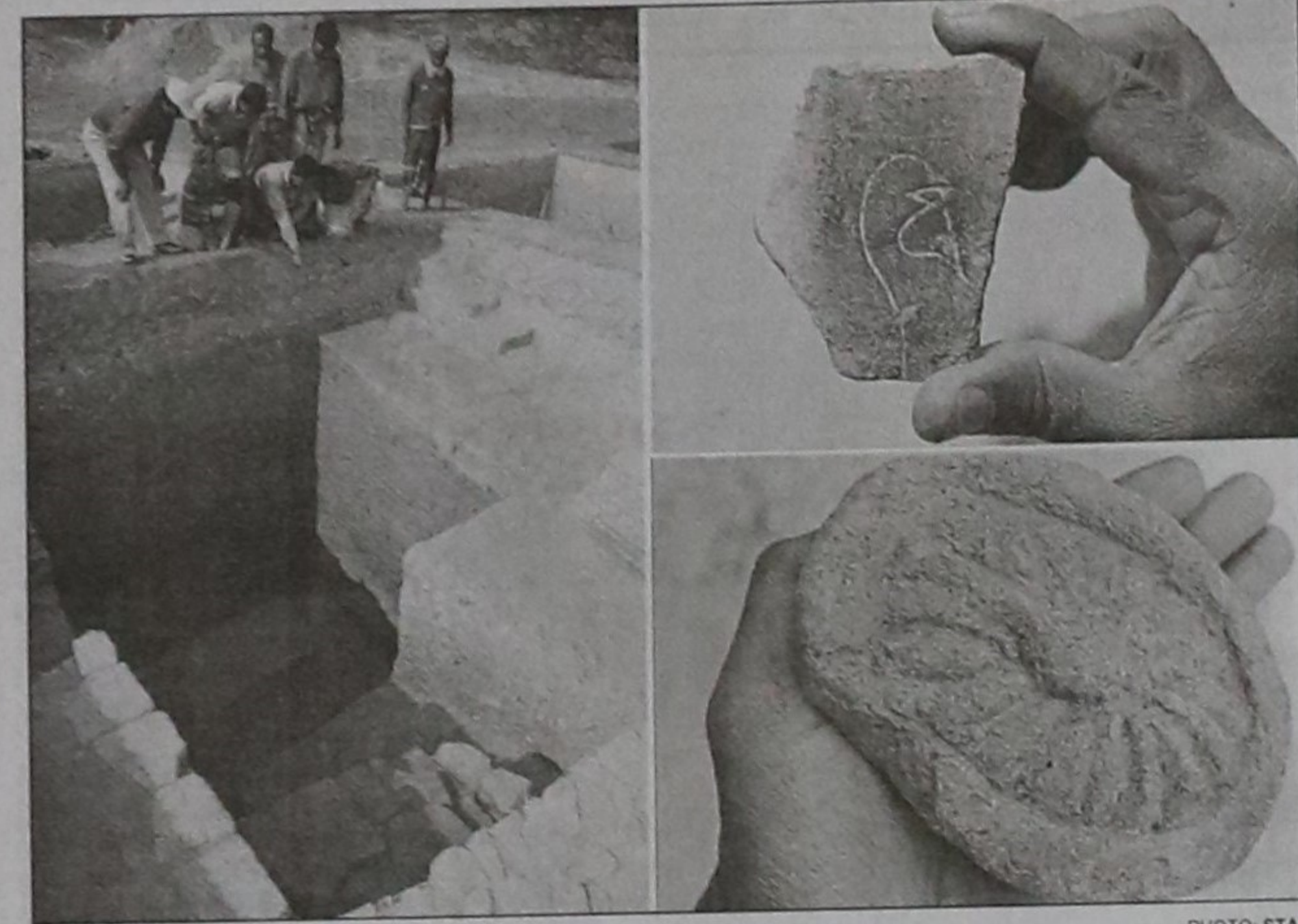
In a letter to Hasina felicitating her on electoral victory, Advani said, "The people of India are delighted to read in the media your categorical statement that your government will not allow the

territory of Bangladesh to be used by terrorist and extremist organisations...."

Stressing on good neighbourly relations with Bangladesh, he said, "Being neighbours, cooperation is not an option but a necessity to pursue our

common ideals of peace, prosperity and all-round progress."

"It is my firm belief that with mutual understanding and sensitivity towards mutual concerns, we can indeed build robust good neighbourly relations," Advani added.



Two pieces of terracotta artefacts of BC era with inscriptions found during the ongoing excavation recently at Basu Bihar archaeological site under Shibganj upazila in Bogra.

# Raul Castro offers talks with Obama

AFP, Havana

Communist Cuba's President Raul Castro has offered to talk directly "without intermediaries" and on equal terms with incoming US president Barack Obama, who has said he would consider direct dialogue.

"A gesture for a gesture. We are ready to do it whenever it may be, whenever they may decide, without intermediaries, directly, but we are in no rush, we are not desperate," Castro said on state television late Friday, a day after Cuba marked the 50th anniversary of its revolution.

After years of economic embargo and hard-line US efforts to isolate the island, Havana now faces rare potential for change with Obama, who has voiced willingness to engage world leaders the administration of President George W. Bush has sought to sideline Obama, who takes office January 20, could "do a great deal, could take positive steps," said Castro, 77, adding he did not expect him to change overall hostile US policy. "But I hope I am wrong about

that," the Cuban president said.

"A president is coming in who has raised a lot of expectations in many parts of the world, hopes that are too high, I think."

But Castro allowed that a new US president "may be able to make more just ideas move forward, and may be able to stop the almost uninterrupted rule since the United States was created that almost every president has had his war or wars."

The Cuban president repeated his argument that US "carrot and stick diplomacy" was a dead end.

"That is over now, that was another era," said Raul Castro, who took over in July 2006 from his brother, iconic Cuban leader Fidel Castro, now ailing and 82. Raul Castro officially took over the presidency in February.

"We will continue to wait patiently," Castro said. "That is incredible if with our Cuban temperament we learn to be patient. Well we've got it, and at least on this front, we have shown it to be true."



Iqbal Bahar Chowdhury hands over a special memorial piece of the liberation war to Air Vice Marshal (ret'd) AK Khandaker at a programme at the Liberation War Museum in the city yesterday.

## Request for Expression of Interest (EOI) Wind Turbine Power Plant

Grameenphone Limited is the leading Telecommunications Service provider in Bangladesh. Along with business, Grameenphone Limited is also concerned with and contributing to the community and country. As a part of that objective, Grameenphone Limited has taken initiative on alternate power solution; through Solar Project and Wind Turbine Project to reduce demand for power as well as ensuring environmental cleanliness.

Grameenphone Limited is requesting Expressions of Interest (EOI) from interested contractors/firms for Wind Turbine Project as mentioned below:

**Subject: Supply, installation, testing, balancing, commissioning, operation and maintenance of all equipment and materials for wind battery diesel/ A.C. mains optimized & intelligent hybrid system with one day autonomy battery back up and related services in the context of drawing / standard of Grameenphone Limited.**

Closing Date for Receipt of EOI : January 28, 2009  
 Reference No. : EOI/GP/WT2008  
 Address EOI to the Attention of : Manager  
 Local Procurement  
 Supply Chain Management Department  
 Grameenphone Limited  
 Celebration Point  
 Plot # 3 & 5, Road # 113/A  
 Gulshan - 2, Dhaka-1212.  
 Fax: +880-2-9882970  
 E-mail Address : localprocurement@grameenphone.com

### SPECIAL INSTRUCTION:

- 1) In view of the nature of the services, only those firms possessing substantial and proven record of performance in the same field of activities are encouraged to participate. Firms should have local representative and local technical support.
- 2) Firms should have minimum project completion capacity of 10KW Wind battery hybrid installation system at any telecom/industrial project.
- 3) Interested firms responding to this EOI may respond by email to: localprocurement@grameenphone.com or alternatively, by fax or by courier.
- 4) This EOI does not constitute a proposition. Grameenphone Limited reserves the right to change or cancel the requirement at any time during the EOI and/or during further selection or proposal evaluation process. Thus, submitting a reply to this EOI does not automatically guarantee that the firm will be considered for receipt of the RFQ or further invitation when issued.
- 5) Only prospective vendors that respond, and are deemed selected, upon completion of an objective evaluation of their application and/or response to this EOI, together with documentation and information supporting their qualifications and experience, may receive the final solicitation document to be issued. Grameenphone Limited reserves the right to reject Expressions of Interest received after the above deadline.

### An Expression of Interest (EOI) submission must consist of the following documents:

- Firm, principal and/or association Information:
- a. Name and address (office responding to this EOI) of the firm with all contact details.
  - b. Firm's main line of work.
  - c. Proof of experience.
  - d. Details of principle with brochures/booklets etc.

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