

Indian businesswomen proposes jt committee

Move to develop women entrepreneurship

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The visiting Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) Ladies Organisation (FLO) yesterday proposed formation of a joint committee to extend cooperation in women entrepreneurship development.

"Women can play a very important role in economic reforms of a country and they can do well in policy making also. In fact, we are evolving in every field and can form a joint committee with Bangladeshi women entrepreneurs to work on regular basis," said Surekha Kothari, leader of the Indian delegation while speaking with FBCCI leaders at the Federation Bhaban in the city yesterday.

Kothari, who is the president of FLO and also director of Kothari Industrial Corporation Ltd, is leading a seven-member Indian trade team.

Women entrepreneurs in the developing countries have many problems including inadequate marketing and training facilities, she added mentioning that FLO is providing technical support for the grass-root, medium and expert levels to develop women entrepreneurs in India.

Speaking at the meeting, internationally reputed fashion designer Bibi Russel underscored the need for concentrating more at the grass-root level, alleging that local entrepreneurs are not investing in human resource development.

After agriculture, craft is the second largest sector and focusing at the grass-root level is a key element for development of this sector, she added.

"We can produce quality product but banking facility for creative people is not adequate here. It is the entrepreneurs who would back

innovative works but it is not happening in Bangladesh," the eminent designer felt. "Bangladeshi people are crazy about Indian products and it is also true that in many cases they are also crazy about Bangladeshi goods."

Speaking at the meeting, president of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FBCCI) Yussuf Abdullah Harun mentioned that trade within the South Asian countries is very poor which is only five per cent.

Women entrepreneurs are playing a very important role in the national economy, particularly poultry, fishery and agro-based industries, he said adding that the federation would set up a women entrepreneur cell shortly.

Biman earns over Tk 709cr sales revenue

BSS, Dhaka

Biman Bangladesh Airlines has earned over Tk 709 crore in sales revenue in the first five months of the current financial year 2002-03.

The growth of earnings is 10 per cent higher than that of the corresponding period of the previous year, a Biman press release said here yesterday.

Biman Bangladesh Airlines, the national flag carrier, earned the amount by carrying 573027 passengers and 17946 tonnes of cargo during the period.

Lever Brothers launches New Lifebuoy

Lever Brothers Bangladesh Ltd launched New Lifebuoy recently, says a press release.

Distributors and managers of Lever Brothers Bangladesh Ltd. gathered from all over the country for the launch of the health soap. Eminent magician Jewell Aich unveiled the New Lifebuoy with his spectacular magic at Dhaka Sheraton Winter Garden.

Prime Bank workshop on money laundering

A workshop on anti-money laundering act 2002 for the operation managers of different branches of Prime Bank Limited was held at the bank's training institute in the city on Thursday, says a press release.

Shah Md Nurul Alam, Managing Director of the bank opened the workshop as chief guest.

M Shahjahan Bhuiyan, additional managing director, also spoke on the occasion as special guest.

BCS computer show kicks off today

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

With the slogan 'where technology meets people' the seven-day 12th BCS Computer Show 2003 kicks off at the Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar in the city today.

Foreign Affairs Minister M Morshed Khan will be present as chief guest at the inaugural ceremony of the show, organised by the Bangladesh Computer Samity (BCS) in co-operation with Ministry of Science and Information and Communication Technology (ICT).

Science and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Minister Abdul Moyeen Khan and Post and Telecommunications Minister Aminul Haque will be present as special guests on the occasion.

President Iajuddin Ahmed is expected to remain present as chief guest at the concluding ceremony of the show on Saturday.

116 computer firms are participating in this year's exhibition. The firms include software developer companies, hardware sales firms, Internet Service Providers (ISPs), information technology based magazines and other firms.

Some foreign companies from Asian-Oceanian Computing Industry Organisation (ASOCIO) and World Information Technology Services Alliance (WITSA) are also taking part in this exposition.

In this year's show emphasis will be given on building relationships between various public and private sectors and also between the government and various IT companies.

European Union (EU) has also taken a stall in the exhibition for the first time to promote Bangladeshi IT sector in the international arena.

Smuggled computer products and piracy software have been specially forbidden for show this year.

'BCS ICT scholarship' for poor and meritorious students will be formed with some portion of the entrance fee.

A programming contest will also be held at the fair venue on Tuesday. Thirty teams are expected to participate in that contest.

The entry fee has been fixed at Tk 20. But students of various schools and colleges can enter the fair free, provided they have prior permission from the authority.

The show will conclude on Saturday.

Regional GSM operators meet in city today

A two-day meeting of the South Asian GSM mobile phone operators will begin in the city today, says a press release.

Post and Telecommunications Minister Barrister Aminul Haque is likely to inaugurate the meeting as chief guest at Sonargaon Pan Pacific Hotel. The Chairman of Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Board Syed Marghub Morshed will attend the function as special guest.

GrameenPhone Limited, Telecom Malaysia International

Bangladesh (TMIB) and Sheba Telecom, the three GSM operators of the country, will jointly host the meeting.

The South Asian GSM (Global System for Mobile) operators are expected to launch a regional alliance from the meeting, the first of its kind being held in the region. The meeting will be attended by at least 25 participants from seven countries including Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan, Maldives and host Bangladesh.

ReadyCash Raffle Draw Winners

The latest ReadyCash Raffle draw was held at ReadyCash Bangladesh Office at Dhanmondi in the city on Thursday, says a press release.

Prizes	Name of the winner	Card No
Saintmartin free domestic package tour for two	Md Snikdha Akter	5047980000044976
YMCA free computer/English course	Efran Islam	5047980000037105
Best Western La Vinci hotel free one night stay	Md. Mamunur Rashid	5047980000020558
ACE Workshop & Service Center Sharex Complex free Gift Box	Dr. Suja Uddin Ahmed	504798000002478
M/s Mukta Enterprise	Ahmad Ullah	5047980000027189
M/s Mukta Enterprise	Dilip Kumar Sarkar	5047980000037678
M/s Mukta Enterprise	Md. Abul Hossain	5047980000029561
M/s Mukta Enterprise	M. Quamrul Alam	5047980000015490
M/s Mukta Enterprise	Chow. Tasirul Islam	5047980000011953
Great Wall free Lunch/ Dinner for two	Mrs. Mahafuza Khaleda	047980000038480
Great Wall free Lunch/ Dinner for two	Manjur Ali Tikon	5047980000011769
Great Wall free Lunch/ Dinner for two	S.M. Ron	5047980000036577
Great Wall free Lunch/ Dinner for two	Md Mir Hafiz Uzzaman	5047980000044855
Solna Free Lunch/Dinner for two	Md Sohrab Hossain	5047980000038299
Solna Free Lunch/Dinner for two	Mustafa Suhel Iqbal	5047980000013238
Solna Free Lunch/Dinner for two	AFM Ashrafuzzaman	5047980000033277
Sticky Fingers free meal for two	Dr. Wahiduzzaman	5047980000036303
Sticky Fingers free meal for two	Asrar Masud	5047980000002136
Sticky Fingers free meal for two	Syed Ismat Ara	5047980000017697
FedEx free shipment	Zahanara Fahim	5047980000014790
FedEx free shipment	Tanvir Ghauri	5047980000021795
FedEx free shipment	Faruq Ahmad Robi	5047980000031113
FedEx free shipment	Deb Dulal Shaha	504798000008069
FedEx free shipment	Malaya Chowdhury	5047980000037795
Liton's Snacks free meal for two	Hamida Hasnat Jui	5047980000023298
Liton's Snacks free meal for two	Md Abdul Hasanat Kha	504798000004559
Liton's Snacks free meal for two	Md. Kaesur Rahman	5047980000024064
Liton's Snacks free meal for two	Sazu Khadem	5047980000037165

Winners can collect their prizes from the Executive, Promotions of ReadyCash within 30 days of this news circulation. ReadyCash encourages its cardholder to read The Daily Star and The Daily Prothom Alo on every Sunday for a new listing of card winner or call our Customer Service at: 8125294-7, 8130497, and 8123850.

Paradise Cables now corporate client of CityCell

Paradise Cables Ltd has subscribed for corporate service of CityCell Digital, says a press release.

An agreement to this effect was signed recently at the head office of Pacific Bangladesh Telecom Ltd in the city.

This agreement will help Paradise Cables to reduce their telephone expenses significantly.

Shafiu Azam, SVP (sales and marketing), Farhad Alam, AVP (corporate sales), Naimul Haque, senior executive of PBTL, and Rabiul Islam, GM of Paradise Cables Ltd. were present at the signing ceremony.



PHOTO: CITYCELL
Shafiu Azam, head of Sales and Marketing of CityCell Digital, and Rabiul Islam, GM of Paradise Cables Ltd, shake hands after signing an agreement in the city recently. Under the deal, Paradise Cables has become corporate client of CityCell Digital.

CURRENCY

Following is yesterday's forex trading statement by Standard Chartered Bank

Selling		Currency		Buying	
TT/OD	BC	TT Clean	OD Sight Doc	OD Transfer	
59.2500	59.3000	USD	58.3500	58.1814	58.1129
63.6282	63.7151	EUR	60.7988	60.6154	60.5388
96.0842	96.1262	GBP	93.0754	92.8089	92.7543
35.3646	35.1891	AUD	33.2772	33.1847	33.1046
0.5001	0.5003	JPY	0.4844	0.4842	0.4832
43.2379	43.2824	CHF	41.8913	41.7968	41.7123
6.8937	6.8988	SEK	6.6581	6.6405	6.6245
38.5206	38.5452	CAD	37.5176	37.4240	37.3408
7.6045	7.6058	HKD	7.4770	7.4593	7.4419
34.245	34.2668	SGD	33.429	33.3855	33.2708
16.2636	16.2812	AED	15.7486	15.7267	15.7082
15.9254	15.9436	SAR	15.4419	15.4052	15.3870

Exchange rates of some currencies against US dollar

Indian rupee	Pak rupee	Lankan rupee	Thai baht	Nor kroner	NZ dollar	Malaysian ringgit
47.95	88.175	96.6	42.755	6.86185	0.538	3.8000