



THE WEEK THAT WA

Death anniversary of Surya Sen:

The day of hanging of the great revolutionist and front-line soldier of Anti-British Movement, Master Da Surya Sen was observed in the port city on January 12.

Different political and socio-cultural organisations arranged different programmes including discussion meetings on the occasion.

The speakers at the meetings called upon people from all strata of life to be imbued with the spirit of Master Da and come forward to help build a violence-free and prosperous Bangladesh.

CCC meeting with engineers:

Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) engineers exchanged views with the local development authorities here on Sunday.

The meeting with CCC mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury in the chair stressed the launching of coordinated activities to solve the problems of the city.

Friendship Society formed:

Bangladesh-Iran Friendship Society was formed here with Dr. Abul Kashem of Bengali department of Chittagong University and Syed Anzad Hossain as its president and general secretary respectively.

The formation of such a society would strengthen and improve the friendly ties and relationship between the peoples of the two countries.



Women Entrepreneurs (WE), Chittagong organised a press conference at a local hotel in the city recently. WE Chittagong president Monowara Hakim Ali speaks at the conference.

Rly HQ to be brought back:

Communication Secretary Syed Rezaul Hayat said the headquarter of Bangladesh Railway would be shifted to Chittagong again.

While inaugurating the renovation work of old Railway Station Building here on Thursday he said the construction work of Chittagong-Ghondum rail trucks via Cox's Bazar would start soon.

He said to pave the way for joining Bangladesh Railway with international railway, Dhaka-Chittagong rail tracks would be made double and electric train would be introduced in this section.

The inaugural ceremony was also addressed by Director General of Bangladesh Railway AKM Rezaul Karim, Director of Grameen Phone Justin Morok, Yeahia Mokarram and high railway officials and the Forum for Planned Chittagong leader Engr. ABMA Baset.

New body of Ctg Press Club takes over:

The newly elected executive committee of Chittagong Press Club for the year 2003-2004 took over the charge here on January 11.

Bring dynamism in port activities:

Food Minister and Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal president Abdullah Al Noman called for united efforts for maintaining development and productivity to bring in more dynamism in the activities of Chittagong port.

The food minister, also the Joint Secretary General of BNP made this call while addressing a workers rally on Bondor Dock Workers' Management Board booking office premises here on Friday.

A festival of engineers

SHAHIDUL ISLAM

The recently concluded three-day convention, sixth in all in Chittagong since the independence, had evoked exuberant enthusiasm among the members of Institution of Engineers Bangladesh (IEB) across the country.

The convention venue -- IEB Chittagong centre -- had virtually turned into a festive place where more than 2500 engineers from

and prosperous Bangladesh.

Deputy Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Advocate Abdul Hamid attended the closing ceremony of the convention as chief guest instead of Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina.

Memorial lectures: One of the features of this year's convention

and Prof Dr. Iqbal Mahmud key speaker at the MA Rashid memorial lecture. IUT Vice Chancellor Prof M Anwar Hossain presided this lecture styled 'Code of ethics and professional conduct for engineers: Some inter-country comparisons.'

The topic of Dr. FR Khan memorial lecture was 'Earthquake and the imminent disaster.' Noted engineer,

the same time, earnest efforts should be made to develop and use local resources particularly for the production of power and to reserve and conserve gas as much as possible.

3) Reform is a continuous process while the power sector is a capital intensive one. Hence, the reform agenda should be based on the country needs and recognise the economic reality of the country.



Prime Minister Khaleda Zia giving away certificates among the engineers for outstanding achievements at the inaugural ceremony of the 47th convention of engineers.

home and abroad gathered, met each other, exchanged pleasantries and views on different issues. It was like a big reunion of engineers.

The convention from 5th to 7th of January was marked with the formal inauguration by none other than the Prime Minister Khaleda Zia, six memorial lectures in respect of some deceased but wellknown engineering personalities who had also been the former members of IEB and a day-long seminar featuring some 12 papers on several important issues.

Nurul Karim, honorary secretary of IEB Chittagong centre, was found charged with emotion to some extent while talking to The Daily Star about the convention.

The IEB secretary said, "The six memorial lectures graced with the participation of delegates from home and abroad had obviously matched to the international standard and it reaped great amount of knowledge about global scenario for our member engineers."

Opening and closing ceremony: Prime Minister Khaleda Zia inaugurated the convention at a colourful function on the IEB Chittagong centre premises in the morning on January 5. In her speech she urged the engineers to help build a better

was the arrangement of six memorial lectures initiated as a mark of honour and respect to some late and distinguished engineers of the country.

On January 4, the day before the convention began, Engineer Quamruzzaman memorial lecture was held while on the first day of the convention (January 5) four lectures were organised. These were: Engineer MA Jabbar memorial lecture, Engineer Md Shahjahan memorial lecture, Engineer Dr. MA Rashid memorial lecture and Shaheed (martyred) Engineers memorial lecture.

Water Resources Minister LK Siddiqui was present as chief guest and Prof Dr. M Anwarul Azim the key speaker at the Jabbar memorial lecture. President of World Federation of Engineers' Organisation (WFEO) Prof Jose Medem Sanjuin chaired this lecture titled 'The Route to Global Engineer'.

The topic of Md Shahjahan memorial lecture was 'Globalisation of higher education: Bangladesh perspective.' Presided over by M Anwarul Azim, the lecture was attended, among others, by Minister for Forests and Environment Shahjahan Siraj as chief guest and Engr. Syed Muzaffar Ali from Pakistan as special guest.

Food Minister Abdullah Al Noman was present as chief guest



Deputy Leader of the opposition in parliament Advocate Abdul Hamid speaks at the closing ceremony of the 47th convention of engineers.

BRAC University Vice-chancellor Prof Dr. Jamilur Reza Chowdhury chaired the lecture that was attended, among others, by Dr. Iqbal Mahmud as chief guest and Prof M Azadur Rahman the key speaker.

Seminar: A national seminar on "Globalisation a Challenge for the Developing Countries: Bangladesh Perspective" was held on the closing day. The main idea for selecting this theme was to bring this burning issue before the engineering community, increase the awareness thereby to develop the professional attitude and academic qualification to face the challenge of globalisation that is now knocking at the door.

After discussion at length on various topics, the participants made some recommendations. The recommendations are:

1) Globalisation is putting construction industries of developing countries like Bangladesh in severe competition and pressure. Hence a balanced development of industry together with an efficient technology transfer is essential.

2) During the present era of globalisation, the Bangladesh economy has been liberalised and opened for foreign direct investment. Though it was done to reap benefits of physical capital formation, technology transfer higher competition efficiency, there are risks along with rising debt service payments especially in the energy sector.

4) Water sector in Bangladesh should be taken care with judgement to ensure access to local poor people. To resolve the conflict on international rivers, all the countries that share the water sheds should have an integral plan for the best possible utilisation of water resources.

5) Already in some areas of Bangladesh, ground water mining has been observed. To overcome the situation, crop diversification is essential for better water management and to achieve better irrigation efficiency.

6) The strategies for improving literacy, learning opportunities and infrastructure should be explored to take the best possible advantage of information revolution and the great wave of technology.

7) The increase of the use of less polluting and environment friendly modes of transport together with efficient traffic management system is essential for a sustainable transport sector.

8) Innovative technology, government commitment, considerable resources, trained local personnel are essential for achieving a sustainable and effective road safety programmes.

9) Formal leadership education is essential to have better understanding of leadership situations.

CGVC to be made university

ABDULLAH AL-MAHMUD

Chittagong Veterinary College would be upgraded to a university soon for further promotion of veterinary education.

The government is determined to develop the agriculture and livestock sectors for building a healthy economic structure in the country. Various programmes have already been taken to this end where small entrepreneurs and veterinary colleges can play a significant role.

The ministers said this while they were addressing the three-day commencement ceremony of the 2001-2002 academic year of Chittagong Government Veterinary

College (CGVC) recently. They also talked about different initiatives and measures taken by the government in this regard.

The ceremony was held on the CGVC premises at Pahartoli in Chittagong.

Food Minister Abdullah Al Noman in his address as chief guest at the concluding session of the ceremony on January 4 said the college would be upgraded to a university soon.

The food minister called upon the private sectors including small entrepreneurs for making the already taken massive programmes for the development of livestock sector in the country a success.

He urged veterinary doctors to ensure service to small entrepreneurs of the grass-roots level discharging duties with more sincerity.

Commerce Minister Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury and Fisheries and Livestock Minister and Dhaka City Corporation Mayor Sadek Hossain Khoka also addressed the ceremony as chief guests on the second and inaugural day respectively.

Chittagong veterinary college started its journey with only two class-rooms, five laboratories and an office room on the premises of Government Poultry Firm at Pahartoli in 1996 to see a laudable development in the last seven

years. It has developed in both size and academic activities with the government allocation of Tk. 19 crore 44 lakh during this period.

At present the college has a four-storey building, eleven laboratories including five classrooms, office and computer laboratory. It also has a 280-seat male dormitory and a female dormitory with 50 seats. Besides, there are residential quarters for the teachers, officials and employees, a hospital with surgery and gynae units and satellite clinical centre.

The college conducts activities of 22 disciplines through its nine academic departments. It imparts education on basic veterinary and practical knowledge of animal production. The students are taught through tutorial system side by side with the regular classes, the principal said.

When asked about their reaction to the assurance of turning the college into a university, Assistant Professor Paritosh Kumar Bishwash said, "we are happy with the announcement."

"It is interesting that the demand for turning the college into university was raised from the well-wishers of the college and those of Chittagong," he added.

In this regard he said, it had to cross many hurdles of land dispute



Chittagong Government Veterinary College at Pahartoli.

The great mezban fiesta of Ctg

MOHIT UL ALAM

'Mezban', a Persian word, means the host. But in Chittagong the word commonly refers to a great beef fiesta held to celebrate an occasion in the Muslim community. The major occasion for the mezban is, of course, the 12th day of Rabiul Awaal to observe the birth and death anniversary of the Prophet (peace be upon him).

and spices as well as for the cook and the decorator.

Now, to help devour this enormous quantity of beef, rice is added as an adjunct. This is not fine rice, but the locally produced plain rice, which smells of the raw sack in which it was bought, but which definitely increases your appetite.

Beef at a mezban is served in three different preparations. The meaty part of the thigh of the bull is cut into small pieces and then collected in a big pan and then cooked hot with very thick gravy. This is the tastiest part of the mezban menu.

Mezban is a very strong part of the traditional hospitality of the Chittagonians. You may feel shy of going to a marriage feast, if you're not invited there. But there's no tarry in mezban. You can always join a mezban dinner -- invited or uninvited.

Mezban is very much a status symbol, mind you. Rich families try to outshine one another in holding a mezban. The family whose mezban is attended by a greater number of guests and a better set of VIPs naturally wins. This family has proved that it has more money.

Mezban is absolutely a one-menu dinner. It's beef and beef and more beef. Such beefy affair needs to be beefed up by a beefy discussion so that nobody can beef about saying that I didn't put enough beef into this beefy matter.

An average mezban in Chittagong at a rich man's house is prepared for three to four thousand people. An average bull chosen for sacrifice at a mezban provides about 120 kg of meat, which can be consumed by around six hundred beefeaters.

The Chittagong cooks who pre



Random selling of guest birds at different markets in Rangamati town is a common feature in the winter. The picture was taken from the Rangamati town centre of Banarupa.